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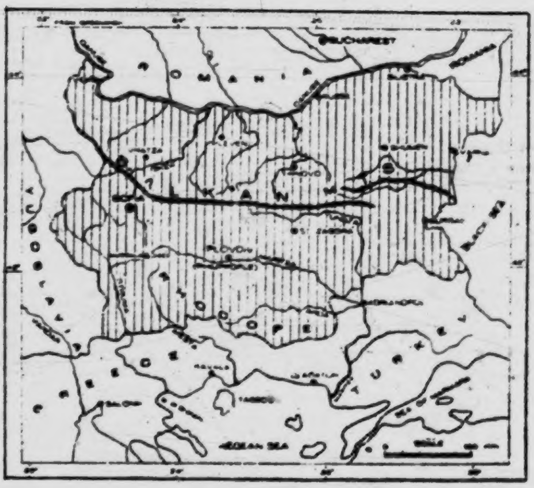
Geographic Commitee

BULGARIA
IS NOT
THE LAND OF ROSES
ONLY


BUCHAREST
ROMANIA
BALKAN
SOFIA
TIRNOVO
PLOVDIV
ST. ZAGORA
RHODOPE
TURKEY
GREECE
AEGEAN SEA
BLACK SEA

CHR. G. DANOFF, LTD, PUBLISHERS
SOFIA, 1946.

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p.2

Bulgaria is not the Land of Roses only

> *„And be not afraid of them, that kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul".*
>
> *(Matthew, 10. 28)*

000 **1. Introduction.** Bulgarian history in the Balkans begins from 679. Its course and development runs through several periods of greatness and glory, as well as through periods of decline and darkness.

Here is what noted foreign scholars (cf. §§ 7 and 8) write about Bulgaria and Bulgarian culture as we have it during the time of the First Bulgarian Kingdom (679—1018): „The greatest honor due to the Bulgarian people by right is not only for the language and education they gave to the Slavic world, but to the fact that Bulgaria was the cradle of Slavic culture" (Prof. Derjavin); „The old Bulgarian literature may positively be placed on the same level with the Greek and Latin literatures and above all other European literatures" (Prof. Jaghich); „The Bulgarian merchants brought down the Danube valley along with their goods the first seeds of the Reformation. Their doctrines, carried over to Bohemia, cleared the path for John Huss and Jerome of Prague" (Sim. de Sismondi).

The Bulgarian nation and its language, which had made an enormous progress during the centuries, in spite of the dark 500 years of Turkish political yoke and Greek spiritual opression, were not accorded a fair deal. When the Bulgarians demanded their human elementary right to pray and officiate in their own language, a high clergyman of the Greek Orthodox Church wrote in his epistles of 1903 to his flock, who were still under Turkish political and Greek religious

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oppression, the following: „The chanter Christo in your village has sung from Easter until to-day in the Bulgarian language! You are bound to use no other language but the Greek, because this is the language which has been sanctified by the apostles and by our saintly fathers and it is the language in which you should glorify the holy and grand name of our Saviour. The Bulgarian language is not recognized by the Church; on the contrary, it is forbidden and rejected by the Holy Synod and by the Great Church of Christ!“ Such was the outrage exercised unscrupulously by the spiritual leaders over the helpless Bulgarian population in the Turkish provinces of the Balkans and it was sanctioned by the Turkish authorities 386 years after Luther's Resolutions and 214 years after the publication of the Act of Tolerance in England.

What an awful gap between spiritual grandeur and dark oppression! What a big contrast between the free rise of Bulgarian culture in the Middle Ages and the violence exercised over conscience and soul in the beginning of the twentieth century by „representatives of the Christian faith“ foreign to the Bulgarian nation! During this intervening period the foreign civilized world had forgotten that Bulgarian people and Bulgarian speech ever existed.

This unknown land of Bulgaria had to be discovered again in Europe. The rage of the Turkish regular and irregular forces over the unhappy population in the famous Valley of Roses broke out in the year 1876 and the waters of the river Maritza were mixed with the blood of this population; but the voice of the great englishman William Gladstone was heard and the forgotten people of Bulgaria regained their membership in the family of nations.

Regent Damaskinos, another high Greek clergyman, raises his voice against powerless Bulgaria to-day, after she had offered a great share of her blood in the most difficult moments of her history for the liberation of South Eastern Europe from the German oppressor, the common enemy, who was pursued by her forces far beyond the frontiers of his own country. This high clergyman, who represents the Greek nation of to-day and bears the cross of Christ on his chest, would have the Bulgarian nation crucified on this cross and by shouting „Crucify him“ he wishes to appeal to those on whom the future world order depends, but who in their turn endeavor to build the new life in the Balkans for lasting peace with patience and wisdom.

How thoughtful, on the other hand, are the words of the British Prime Minister Clement Attlee, spoken at the congress of the Labor Party in Blackpool (Reuter, August 12, 1945): „The settlement of the European questions is not an easy matter and it is hard for us Englishmen to understand the feelings of the peoples who had been long under Hitlerite oppression... We need patience above all when we consider these questions that have to be solved only by good will... Looking back at the frightful destructions of this war and turning our eyes towards the unknown posibilities a future war might bring in that respect, we should have a sense of appreciation about certain things which the nations scramble and the governments fight for... The Labor Government pays its best attention to all these questions. Rash actions will not do for their solutions and for the difficulties that have to be surmounted. We have to do with the future of millions of people...“ Consequently, it might be commendable for Regent Damaskinos to be more prudently reserved and refrain from betraying the instincts of the Byzantine period of Emperor Basil II who was called by the Byzantine historians „Slayer of Bulgarians“ and who, according to the same historians, gave orders to have the eyes of 15,000 brave soldiers of the Bulgarian King Samuel cut out (1014).

2. Why was this Book Written? The Bulgarian nation, like all small nations established in a region under great political pressure of big nations, has had a very interesting, but a very tempestuous history. It has seldom gone through a period of lasting peace. Nevertheless, it has reached in various epochs of its history the biggest possible achievements both in spiritual and material grandeur. The Greek nation, situated far from the big land routes of this stormy corner of Europe, which is the passage to the two neighbouring continents of Asia and Africa, alone, among all other Balkan nations, enjoyed a relatively quiet development favoured by the enchantment which Ancient Hellas had over Western Europe. The foundations

000 of the Ottoman Empire in Europe were deeply rooted in Bulgaria, which was in closest proximity to its capital, the ancient Byzantium, noted for its geographical situation. Serbia and Greece were situated on the outskirts of this Empire. They were in touch with advanced European nations and were able to snap out of Turkish dominion because of the bigger centrifugal force along the periphery of the Empire. The loss of Bulgaria, on the contrary, meant for the Turks the beginning of the decline of Turkish authority in Europe.

We may then, without false modesty, express amazement at the relatively enormous achievements of Bulgaria under these circumstances. Bulgaria is a small country, lacking particular natural resources and yet, in her short free life of 67 years, she was able to reach accomplishments in the various aspects of her life, that could only be compared to achievements in countries much older than she. Let us sketch the above statements with a few data.

121 There is no claim to present in this book the vast information which might be necessary to acquaint an objective and willing reader with Bulgarian affairs. We would be pleased if we succeed in presenting a picture sufficiently characteristic of the main features of Bulgaria's past and present, and to cast a ray ot light on the facts that might be helpful to those on whom will depend the future of the Balkan Peninsula and its security from further catastrophies.

000 **3. Bulgaria is not Only the Country of Roses.** People who have a casual interest in small countries are usually satisfied with the fact that Bulgaria is the land of roses. It is true that there are roses in Bulgaria and that the Rose Valley is wonderful in May, and that the attar of roses produced there has been distributed all over the world since olden times to give sweetness and beauty to the life of elegance and splendor. But is Bulgaria only the land of roses and nothing else? No matter how poetic this description of our country appears to be, for the purposes of our study we will emphasize the point that *Bulgaria is not the land of roses only*. Bulgaria has not been filled only with the scent of delicate and fine roses. The bigger part of the thirteen centuries of her existence has been traced rather by the marks of their thorns than by the scent of their petals. It is hard to understand the Bulgarians, without

appreciating the spirit of their history and without getting down to the meaning of Bulgaria's geographical and political situation. There is a need of deeper comprehension of the present day problems of the nations. Casual evaluations in common phrases like „the Roses of Bulgaria," „the Serenades of Italy or „the Bullfights of Spain" should give room to a more solid and comprehensive acquaintance with the actual value attributed to nations.

4. Bulgaria should be Discovered again for the World.

It may seem strange, but we feel that Bulgaria should be discovered again for Europe. A German professor wrote a book[1]) in 1942, which was widely spread in Bulgaria and in which we read the following statement about our country: „In the North the soil is poor, but south of the Balkan range are grown rice, cotton, sugar cane, tobacco and many roses for the production and distribution of attar of roses; coal, gold, salt, petrol, silver, iron are found in sufficient quantities for exploitation, but not one of them has been consistently made use of. . ." The granary of Bulgaria, our Danube plane, with its fields of wheat, corn, barley, oats, rape seed, sugar beets, vineyards etc., this, mind you, is the poor soil of Bulgaria! Gold, petrol, silver in sufficient quantities for exploitation, this certainly must be a rich country! And, above all, many roses and quantities of attar of roses! About the history of the Bulgarian nation this author says the following: „The country south of Rumania beyond the Danube is inhabited by Bulgarians, originally a Turkish people, who came to those lands around the year 680 and spread and mixed with the Slavic settlers there. In 900 they became a great power in the whole Balkan Peninsula... in 1000 they were defeated by the Byzantine emperors. They obtained their liberty in 1200 and in 1400 fell under Turkish dominion which weighed heavily on them for a long time. Their national consciouseness reappeared as late as the 19th century, when they were already divided as Bulgarians and Turks and were able to regain with Russian help their national independence in 1878. . .".

The well-known four volume Lexicon of Brockhaus gives

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[1]) Prof. Otto Geissler, Die Länder und Völker der Erde, ein historisch-geographischer Abriss; Leipzig, 1942.

114 this information about the Bulgarians: „ . . . The Western Bulgarians are divided in generic groups of Shopi, Rouptsi, Marvatsi, Barzatsi, Miatsi, Ketskari, Ouloufi, Poulivakovtsi and Kekovtsi. . . They live in mud huts in one or two storeyed houses made of mud, and in villages. They are mostly farmers and bee-masters . . .“ These are 6 lines out of a total of 24 lines of information given in the Lexicon.

So many authors would see a fly and miss an elephant. They would see roses in the field of hardships, and would tell the world of non-existing Rouptsi, Ketskari, Kekovtsi and other tribes, but would overlook the present development of new Bulgaria and as to the old one, they would hardly betray an inkling of understanding. This negligent attitude towards the human element is the differential of a nefarious policy which has caused the world frightful misfortunes.

On the other hand, we have before us an American text book[1]), „Our World To-day“, which in 2200 words gives a true and adequate picture of our small country. It is written with a sympathetic understanding which any interested reader would like to find in a short treatise on other countries, great or small. We are told of roses and of attar of roses in this book, but these features of the picture are retouched with grace and refinement. The practical understanding of a superior race emphasizes rather the features of gardening, tobacco planting, sugar-beet cultivation, grapes, the wheat fields of Danube Bulgaria etc. It tells no fairy tales of gold, silver, petrol and sugar cane in Bulgaria. These distant authors seem to know that such miracles do not occur in our country and that the country is not only „the land of Roses“. They mark with simple words our cultural progress, our budding and, in some respects, advanced industry, our sugar factories and good roads, water power, village and national life, our Danube River navigation etc.

I. A Glance in the past

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131 **5. Geographic Features.** Bulgaria occupies a central position in the Balkan Peninsula (Fig. 1). The location of her capital is particularly characteristic. Bulgaria is a

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[1]) Stull and Hatch, Our World To-day, a text book in the New Geography; New York, Allyn and Bacon, 1939.

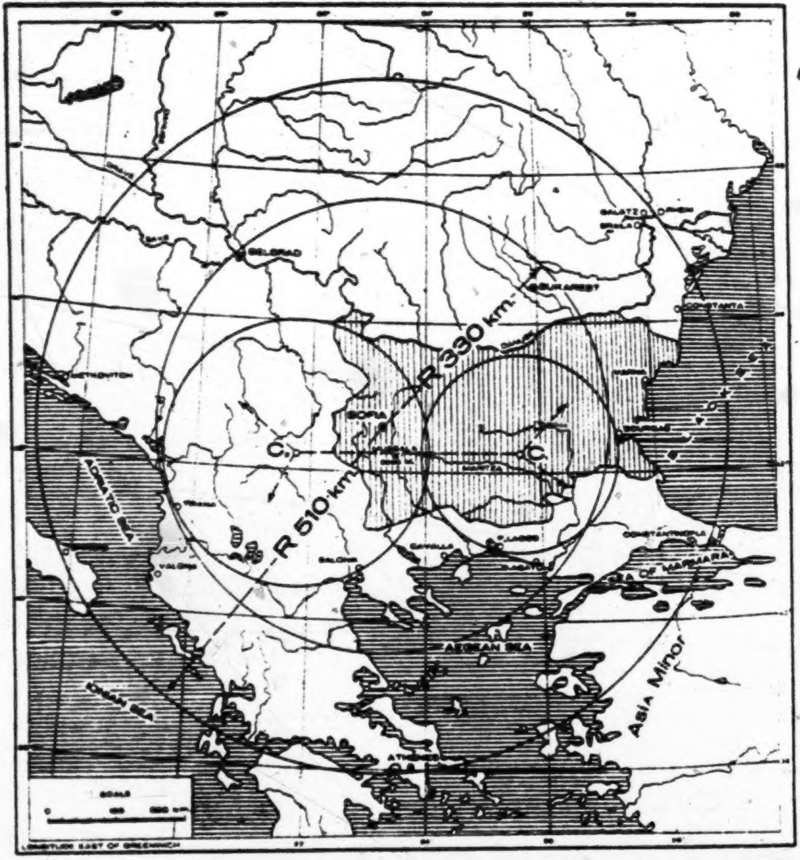

Fig. I. The Central Situation of Sofia, the Capital of Bulgaria, in the Balkan Reninsula. The point C_1 is at equal distance from the Danube, the Black sea and the Aegean sea; $C C_2$ is the equidistant line between the Danube and the Aegean sea.

bridgeland between Europe and Asia, the Danube and the Aegean Sea, the Black Sea and the Adriatic Sea. This singular position of Bulgaria has determined her part in history and has shaped the character of her alert and sturdy people who have lived under constant threat of foreign attack. What races have failed to pass their armies through this land and how fateful for all Europe have been the battles waged in it! The living space of a nation is the main factor which characterizes its past and determines its future. Where do we have a better evidence of this, than in the present state of the Balkans?

133 High mountains like Vitosha, Rila, Pirin and the Rhodope,
with, peaks as high as 9597 feet (Moussala, being the
487 highest mountain peak in the Balkans), are the source of
Balkan's most important rivers flowing in all directions (Fig. 2).
They are Isker, Maritza, Mesta, Struma and the main affluents of
the Vardar and Morava rivers, totaling about 1450 miles in
487 length. These mountains do not only point the way the rivers
should flow, but they determine also the direction of Balkan
roads. In spite of its consideratble elevation, this mountainous

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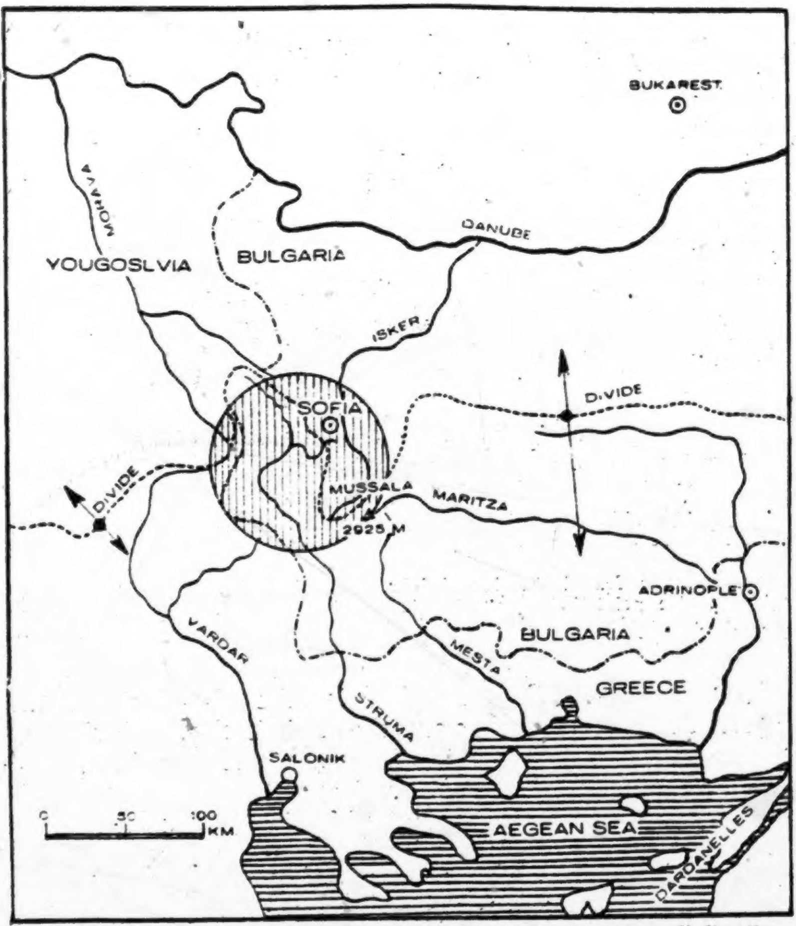
BUKAREST
MORAVA
DANUBE
YOUGOSLVIA
BULGARIA
ISKER
DIVIDE
SOFIA
DIVIDE
MUSSALA
MARITZA
2925 M
ADRINOPLE
VARDAR
BULGARIA
MESTA
GREECE
STRUMA
SALONIK
0
50
100
KM
AEGEAN SEA
DARDANELLES

Fig. 2. The sources of the Balkan most important rivers flowing in all directions: the watershed between the Danube and the Aegean Sea; 43% of Bulgaria's territory is an Aegean Country.

region, called by analogy „The Roof of the Balkans", is endowed with an amazing accessibility which makes it a crossroad of paramount importance (Fig. 3). Sofia is the turntable of Balkan traffic and, because of its possibilifies and location, it has always been a very important centre of communication. It had the same significance in Roman times when Bulgaria was the Roman province of Lower Moesia. Figure 4 indicates the routes of those times. These are the most important roads known to ancient authors.[1] The great importance of the Bulgarian lands in Roman times is evident from the fact that the roads to Byzantium, Asia and the Danube passed through them. This was the cause for the establishment and the rise of many thriving and important „Roman" cities like Marcianopolis, the capital of the province of Lower Moesia (Moesia Inferior); Oescus or Esco, the seat of a Roman legion and a fortified bridgehead against the troublesome Dacians pushing their way from Transylvania to the River Danube; Nikopolis ad Istrum, which was a lavishly embelished military city and a fortified post, guarding the Balkan passes; Serdica, i. e. Sofia, was at that time an important communication centre in charge of the roads leading to the Danube, to Upper Moesia, to the Adriatic and Aegean Seas, to Constantinople (Byzantium) and to Asia. The marked density of the road network in Dobroudja around the estuary of the Danube is also significant.

5. Bulgaria — an Aegean Country.

Many people are accustomed to consider Bulgaria as a Danube country or rather as a Black Sea country. This is because Bulgaria, unfortunately, has always been forcibly kept without an outlet to the Aegean Sea. This is a wrong attitude both geographically and politically. 43% of the territorial waters of Bulgaria empty in the Aegean Sea, 42% flow into the Danube and only 15% in the Black Sea. Consequently, Bulgaria is an Aegean country. This point should be emphasized particularly, and should be observed by all who seek to understand Balkan politics. Although the Greeks have possession of this sea at present, the Bulgarians lived with it for centuries past. They planted their culture in all the lands around the sea, inhabited by the Slavs.

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[1] K. Miller, Itineraria Romana, Römische Reisewege; 1916, Stuttgart.

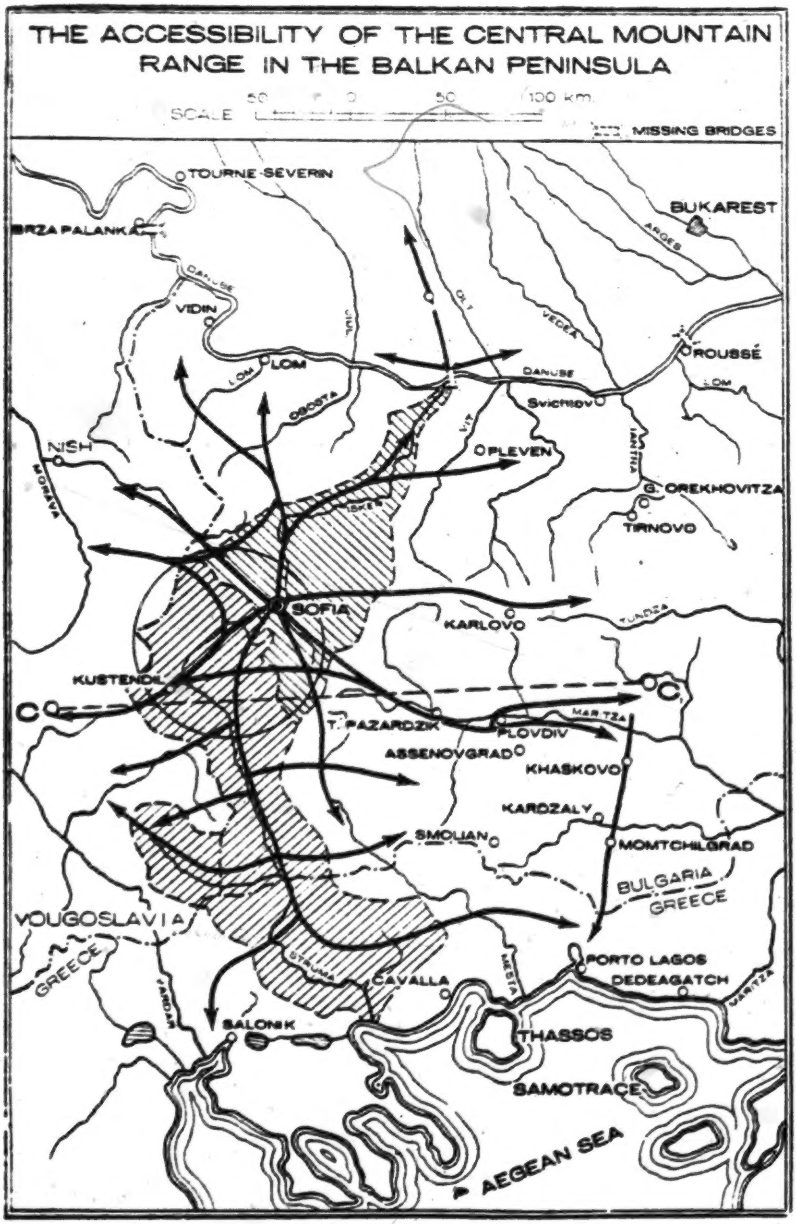
THE ACCESSIBILITY OF THE CENTRAL MOUNTAIN RANGE IN THE BALKAN PENINSULA
SCALE
50
0
50
100 km.
MISSING BRIDGES
TOURNE-SEVERIN
BRZA PALANKA
BUKAREST
ARGES
DANUBE
VIDIN
JIUL
OLT
VEDEA
ROUSSÉ
LOM
LOM
OSOSTA
DANUBE
LOM
Svichtov
VIT
NISH
MORAVIA
PLEVEN
JANTRA
G. OREKHOVITZA
TIRNOVO
ISKER
SOFIA
KARLOVO
TUNDZA
KUSTENDIL
C
C
T. PAZARDZIK
MARITZA
PLOVDIV
ASSENOVGRAD
KHASKOVO
KARDZALY
SMOLIAN
MOMTCHILGRAD
BULGARIA
GREECE
YOUGOSLAVIA
GREECE
VARDAR
STRUMA
MESTA
CAVALLA
PORTO LAGOS
DEDEAGATCH
MARITZA
SALONIK
THASSOS
SAMOTRACE
AEGEAN SEA

Fig. 3.

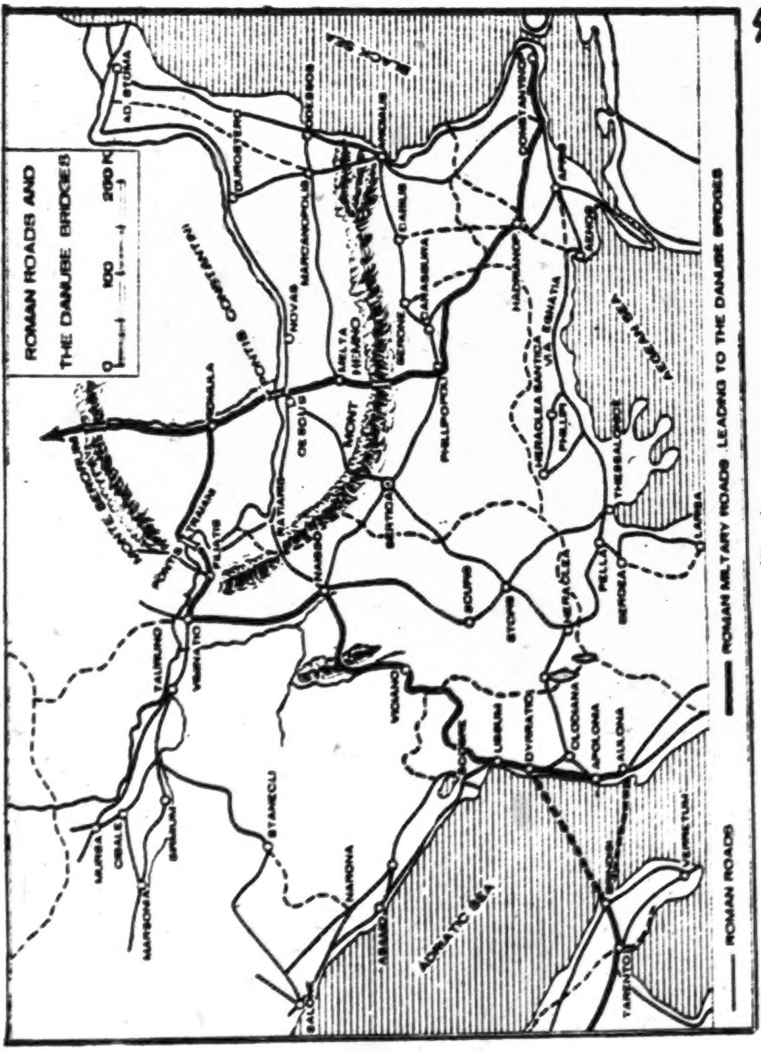
ROMAN ROADS AND THE DANUBE BRIDGES
0 100 200 K
BLACK SEA
ADRIATIC SEA
AEGEAN SEA
VIA EGNATIA
ROMAN ROADS
ROMAN MILITARY ROADS, LEADING TO THE DANUBE BRIDGES

Fig. 4.

7. Sketch of Bulgarian History. We present in appendixes I, A-E,[1] a graphic synopsis of the history of Bulgaria. Although in a very concise form, this is a practical way of comparing the different historical epochs.

The Bulgarian State, established in the Balkan Peninsula in 679, precedes the formation of the United Kingdom of the

[1] [See pp 105(A)-109(B)--Analyst]

175 Franks (678) and the English Kingdom (Kingdom of Essex—802 United Kingdom of England with King Egbert—828), while Rurik organized the Moscow principality even later, in 862.

After the unification of the Slavs in the initial stage of Bulgarian statehood, followed the period of united legislation (802—814) which amalgamated the invaders with the conquered local inhabitants. Then came the period of spiritual enlightenment (852—889), during which Christianity was accepted (866) and, in this manner, the complete assimilation
795 of the mixed population was attained. The Bulgarian church
175 was entirely independent from the very outset, both of Rome, and of any of the Eastern churches. This important fact has run like a red streak through the entire history of Bulgaria for 1080 years, from 865 up to 1945, and has helped the formation of the Bulgarian State and its resistance against all encroachments. The church movement has always been one of the paramount problems in the history of the Bulgarians and, in this respect, they differ from other Slavic nations. The Bulgarian church is closely connected with the experience and the life of the nation. It is entirely independent and its actions are determined only by the will of the Bulgarian people. This fact should be appreciated by those who seek to understand the history of Bulgaria.

538 **8. Literature and Cultural Achievements.** The conversion of the Bulgarians to Christianity (866) and their need for church instruction and prayer books gave rise to literary production, which is the beginning of literature for the whole Slavic world. The entire Bulgarian nation celebrates the day of its enlightenment on May 24. This is the holiday commemorating the life of the saintly brothers of Cyril and Methodius of Salonica who made our alphabeth and prepared our eclesiastical books. This is what the noted Russian historian and academician, N. Derjavin, said in 1914, when he was a professor in the Leningrad (Petrograd) university:[1])

„In this way Bulgaria gave the Slavic people their language, upon which the present Slavic culture grew and developed. It was destined to be the first in giving life to the feeling of tribal self-consciousness among the Slavs and to serve, not only as the language of their prayers, but as the means for uniting them in one cultural, national and, in some instances, political entity. But the great honor of the Bulgarian people is not because they gave the Slavs their language, it is due to the fact that Bulgaria, in spite of her trials and sufferings, was the cradle of Slavic culture and education. It was here, in Bulgaria, that at the end of the ninth century, after the death of St. Methodius, the pious Tzar Boris (852—889) of Bulgaria received his disciples and collaborators headed by St. Clement, Naum and others who were expelled from Moravia in a very cruel manner. This first enormous and variegated Slavic culture developed subsequently, during the illustrious reign of Tzar Simeon (893—927), the son of King Boris the First, owing to the immediate help and participation of the disciples and collaborators of the saintly brothers. This culture was the first to transfer on Slavic ground all the achievements of Byzantine civilization and served as the kernel, which later was taken over by the Serbs and the Russians as the foundation of their own national culture... This very rich cultural inheritance left by Bulgaria to her neighbours was enormous. But to-day we only have en approximate idea about it on information obtained indirectly from the comparatively few monuments preserved by Serbs and Russians outside of Bulgaria. The largest part of this literary treasure was burned in Bulgaria, because Bulgarian writings and anything that savoured of Bulgarian, in general, was subjected to an equal cruelty by Turks and Greeks as well..."

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[1]) **N. Derjavin; The Bulgarian-Serb Relations and the Macedonian Question; Petrograd (i. e. Leningrad), 1914; (in Russian).**

Another celebrated Slavist, a Croatian, professor Jagitch [1]) says: „The ancient Bulgarian writers, like bishop Constantine, presbyter Gregorii, Exarch Ioan, Blackfriar (Chernorizets) Khrabar, Theodore and prince Simeon [2]) himself, who sponsored all their spiritual activity, belonged to the young generation, whom the educators of the Bulgarian people directed to advance further on the road indicated by them. Owing to their efforts and writings, the old Bulgarian literary activity reached

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[1]) V. Jagitch, History of Serbo-Croatian Literature, 1867, in Serbo-Croatian language; Russian translation, Kazan, 1871, p. 82; Jagitch was Professor at the Universities of Odessa, Berlin, St. Petersburg (Leningrad) and Vienna; he was member of the Austrian Senate.

[2]) Afterwards Tzar Simeon the Great, (893—927).

538 such glorious development that, so far as the wealth of ecclesiastical literary production was concerned, it was able to compete bravely with the choicest Greek and Latin literatures of the time and to excel all other European literatures in that respect.“

Prof. Ernest Denis1) states the following on the same subject: „The Bulgarian literature reached its golden age under the reign of Simeon and its historic importance was considerable. There was no other western literature in that distant period which contained such enormous quantity of biblical, liturgical and theological works borrowed from the Greeks. They translated the heroic and legendary narratives which were spread all over Europe in the Middle Ages... The Bulgarians were the first to use the old Slavic language and their works, distributed among all the orthodox Slavs, contributed to the establishment of national literature“.

In the same work, St. Novakovitch and A Malet 2) say: „Persecuted in all the countries dominated by Rome the learned Slavs, from 886 on, took refuge in Bulgaria which was the only country capable of protecting them. They formed there a veritable seminary of letters at the begining of the tenth century“.

795 **9. Bogomilism.** In two hundred and fifty years (679 — 927), since the coming of the Bulgarians to the Balkan Peninsula, they had already become well nigh the real masters of the Peninsula. Simeon had acquired the title „Tzar of All Bulgarians and Greeks“. After his death in 927, however, the Bulgarian State failed to retain the height of its power. The decline was due partly to the rise of the boyars, (nobility) feudal claims. But it was caused also by the appearance of Bogomilism and by the drawn and weary battles. The Bogomils maintained that the church, ikons, ecclesiastical hierarchy, kings, wars, wealth and even human flesh were the works of Satan. Many think that Bogomilism was a contribution by the Bulgarian Slavs to human civilization. A. N. Vsevolski3) says: „Through the influence of Bogomilism, the

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1) In Ernest Lavisse et Alfred Rambaud; Histoire générale du 4-ième siècle à nos jours; 1893. Vol. I, p. 733.

2) Ibid Vol. III. p. 903

3) Slavianskia Skazania, pp. 146—147; cf. D. Misheff, Rectifications of History, Sofia, 1922, p. 13.

Slav people introduced in the European civilization, before 795
Huss, their manner of thinking which left lasting traces in all the literature of the Middle Ages“.

Ernest Denis says[1]): „The dualist doctrine invaded from Bulgaria not only the Slav countries of the Balkan Peninsula, but also Italy and Southern France. The Cathares and Albigenses were n frequent relations with the Southern Slavs. For a long time the Bogomil doctrines were preached by some of the nobility, by kings and even by bishops in some provinces of the peninsula. They dominated Bosnia, in spite of all the efforts of the Popes and the Hungarian kings“.

Ed. Gibbon says:[2]) „The Bulgarians spread their branches over the face of Europe, united in common hatred of idolatry and of Rome, they were bound by a form of episcopal and presbyterian government; their various sects were distinguished by some fainter or darker shades of theology; but they generally agreed on two principles: the contempt for the old testament and the denial of the body of Christ, either on the cross or in the Eucharist. A confession of simple worship and blameless manners is extorted from their enemies; and so high was their standard of perfection, that the increasing congregations were divided into two classes of disciples, those who practised and those who aspired...“

Simonde de Sismondi[3]) makes the following statement: „Along with their goods, the Bulgarian merchants brought down the valley of the Danube the first seeds of the Reformation. Their doctrine, carried into Bohemia, cleared the road for John Huss and Jerome of Prague“.

10. Military Power. We prefer to dwell on the cultural 175
activity of the Bulgarians rather than on their military achievements, although that these achievements were quite significant because the Bulgarian armies reached the walls of Constantinople several times. Bulgarians exercised always great pressure on the Byzantine Empire. Bulgarian history is nothing less than a ceaseless struggle for Slavic supremacy against Byzantine authority.

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[1]) Opus cit. vol. I. p. 733—734.

[2]) Ed. Gibbon, The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire; vol. IV, p. 87; New York, American Publ. Corp.

[3]) Histoire des Republiques Italiennes, vol II, pp. 100—101.

175

„The Byzantine Empire and the Bulgarian Kingdom are fundamentally different in character. Byzantium was a typically theocratic state with a preponderant Greek element. It may in no way, therefore, be called a national state in the contemporaneous sense of the word. On the contrary, the old Bulgarian Kingdom was a typical national state. Its power and distinction consisted in this ethnic community of the Slav-Bulgarians, who appeared as a progressive factor in the South East.“[1]).

Let us put on record here one fact of consequence for the history of Europe, as it is related to us by H. G. Wells[2]): „Then occured a very important scene. On Christmas Day in the year 800, as Charles was rising from prayer in the church of St. Peter, the Pope, who had everything in readiness, clapped a crown upon his head and hailed him Caesar and Augustus. There was a great popular applaus... At first Byzantium was unwilling to recognize the imperial title of Charlemagne. But in 811 a great disaster fell upon the Byzantine Empire. The pagan Bulgarians under their Prince Krum (802—815), defeated and destroyed the armies of the Emperor Nicephorus.... The great part of the Balkan Peninsula was conquered by these people. (The Bulgarian and the English nations thus became established as political unities almost simultaneously). After this misfortune Byzantium did not dispute this revival of the Empire in the West, and in 812 Charlemagne was formally recognized by Byzantine envoys as Emperor and Augustus...“.

The military might of the Bulgarians was on the rise. Gibbon[3]) writes for the reign of Tzar Simeon the following: "The nobles of Bulgaria were educated in the schools and palace of Constantinople, and Simeon, a youth of the royal line, was instructed in the rhetoric of Demosthenes and the logic of Aristotle. He relinquished the profession of a monk for that of a king and warrior: and in his reign of more than forty years Bulgaria assumed a rank among the civilized powers of the earth... He formed the siege of Constantinople (924); and, in a personal conference with the Emperor, Simeon imposed the condition of peace. They met with the most jealous precau tion: the royal galley was drawn close to an artificial and well fortified platform; and the majesty of the purple was emulated by the pomp of the Bulgarians... The reconciliation was sealed by a domestic alliance; the freedom of trade was granted or restored; the first honors of the court were secured to the friends of Bulgaria, above the ambassadors of enemies or strangers; and her princes were dignified with the high and invidious title Basileus, or Emperor...“

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[1]. Prof. Vs. Nikolaev, Vatican University; The Origin of the Assenides etc. Sofia, 1944. p. 82. (in Bulgarian with an abriviation in French).

[2]) Outline of History, vol. II. p. 652, edition New York, 1910/41

[3]) Ed. Gibbon, op. cit. vol. IV. p. 93.

11. Tzar Samuel, 971--1014. The struggle which developed between Bulgaria and Byzantium in the last period was frightful and sanguinary. The Byzantines suffered several defeats under Emperor Basil II (980—1025). Samuel was crowned Tzar of the Bulgarians in 997.

„This man“, says the French historian Shlumberger, „was the noblest incarnation of the struggle for independence in the 10th century. He was a gifted ruler who could measure up to Emperor Basil, the greatest Byzantine Military Commander of that century. But Samuel was not only a noted military leader, strategist and organizer, he was a wise, cautious and farsighted administrator also“.

12. Characteristic cruelty, 1014. The fury of Emperor Basil II against anything Bulgarian was so great, that after a battle at the mountain of Belasitsa, according to the report of the Byzantine historians, he ordered that both eyes of about 15.000 captured Bulgarians should be cut out and, for each group of 100 of them, a one-eyed captive should be left as a guide. In this manner, he sent them back to Tzar Samuel who could not stand the sight of this calamity and died of sorrow the same year. At the termination of this war of 1014, Emperor Basil was given the title of „Slayer of Bulgarians“ (Voulgaroctonos). This title did not contribute much to the prestige of the Empire in the Balkans, because it ruled over foreign peoples and bore the deadly wound inflicted by the struggles of the tough Slavic people, who were gradually driving it out of the central part of the peninsula.

13. Decline. The Turks conquer Bulgaria, 1241—1393.

The period 1241—1393 is marked by the Tartar intervention in the affairs of the Balkan Peninsula, and with the restoration of the Byzantine Empire in Constantinople (1261). The bickering among the Balkan states, their ambitions and misunderstandings helped the cause of the Turks who had already invaded the Peninsula. (Rodosto was captured in 1354). Tirnovo and the Kingdom of Tirnovo fell in 1393 and although Salonica was captured in 1430, the initial date of the Turkish subjection of Bulgaria is considered the year 1393. This subjection lasted until 1878 or 485 years! The Turkish yoke over Macedonia and Thrace lasted until 1912, or 519 years. The year 1453 marked the fall of Constantinople and this put an end to the Byzantine Empire for ever.

The disasters which fell upon the Christian states in the Balkans blocked the way of the western nations and their trade with the East. The Black Sea became a closed sea. The sources of Christian science, literature and art of the East were destroyed. Their transfer to Western Christian Europe took place and this heralded the coming of the Renaisance. The up to date sources of light and culture were covered with darkness which lasted for five centuries. The most numerous and compact Bulgarian population in the heart of the European Turkish dominions suffered the longest subjection allotted to the Balkan peoples.

14. Bulgaria under Turkish Yoke, 1393—1878.

It is not possible to show the state of the Bulgarian lands during this period of 500 years in this brief presentation of Bulgarian history. The graphic synopsis in Appendixes I, A—E,* gives us an approximate idea of it. This gruesome past did not crush the spirit of the Bulgarian nation, but it destroyed many monuments of its spiritual and material culture. It stopped the natural development of the keenest and most powerful nation in the Balkan Peninsula during the Middle Ages. If the Bulgarian nation was not obliterated from the pages of history during these 500 years, it was because of the fact that the conquered people had a much higher civilization than the conquerors.

The Turkish rule was unbearable for the Bulgarian people, but this political tyranny was not the only calamity that

*[See pp. 105(A)-109(B)-- Analyst]

befell them, There was another oppression, far more consequential in its scope, which tapped the resources of its spiritual culture amassed from the brilliant past. Such was the spiritual slavery imposed by tha Greek church. 175

15. Church and Spiritual Slavery. 798 175

The struggle between the Bulgarian nation and the Greek church continued under the Turkish dominion. These two contestants were caught in a deadly grapple. The Bulgarians claimed their proper rights but the Greeks opposed them on all points and saw to it that they were kept back on the land to till the soil for them behind the sea. The battle now was waged for churches, for bishops, for reading the gospels in Bulgarian and not in Greek, for schools, teachers, books and libraries! The Turks gave the Greek Patriarchate in Constantinople complete freedom of action over the spiritual life of the subjected Christian „rayahs“. The Greeks never dreamt of such unlimited ecclesiastical authority even in the brilliant periods of the Byzantine empire. Never was the principle „divide and rule“ applied more effectively, than by the Turks during the time of their domination. Bulgarian libraries were burned. The Patriarchate library in Tirnovo, for instance, was burned in 1628 and this was an irreparable loss for the Bulgarian nation. Such was the fate of many monasterial and church libraries and their priceless manuscripts. In 1823 old manuscripts were destroyed by fire in Tserovina, near Sofia; the same thing happened at Titcha, county of Shumen, in 1840, in Stara-Zagora and in the St. Zograph Bulgarian monastery of Athos. What little was left, in form and essence of the Bulgarian Patriarchate at Ochrid, was lost and wasted with the closing of the Patriarchate in 1867. This church struggle lasted since the second half of the 16th century until to-day. For nearly 400 years the Bulgarian people fought for their rights to establish their national language in the church service and prayers, to have their own clergymen and their own national church was to depend exclusively on the will of the people. How many nations could boast of such history and what other church has played such significant part in the preservation of its people?

16. Backwardness in Spiritual Matters.

The Greek church was guided by an extremely backward spirit which was totally opposed to the advanced ideas and aspirations of the Bulgarian nation. It should not be surprising to us that the Greek monks of St. Athos considered books of no consequence because scholars brought corruption to the world by them. The Greek church and spiritual centre of Constantinople, Phanar[1]), was in no way on a higher intellectual plane in that respect. Here is what the noted historian Jacob Philipp Falmerayer[2]) writes about it: „There came here[3]), as a director, the noted resident of Corfu, Eugene Bulgari (1716—1806). This was during the first years of the reign of Empress Catherine II. He found only seven students in the spacious halls. This man was a perfect master in the Greek language and had occupied himself with philosophical and historical studies in an European manner. The educational institution advanced very quickly. The fame of the teacher, the spirit of the times and the beautiful location of the school attracted many young men from all parts of Turkey, Russia and Italy to the Vatopaed Academy. Eugene had gathered around himself about 200 students residing in 170 cells when he was at the peak of his glory... What were the most beautiful abodes of European muses compared to the superb academy in the forest of this holy mountain! But just as in the case of the Andros school of Kaïri[4]), so here people began to think that Eugene Bulgari and his institute were sowing the seeds of dangerous innovations, anarchistic unrest and a spiritual emancipation which threatened to upset the Greek Ecclesiastical Orient. The monks, however, had no idea, at the time when the academy was established, that such a change would take place. They felt now that the old religious practices at the Holy Mountain would not thrive along with philosophy and free mental gymnastics. They were wor-

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[1]) Phanar is the residence of the Greek Patriarchate in Constantinople.

[2]) Jacob Philipp Falmerayer, Der heilige Berg Athos; aus den Fragmenten aus dem Orient, 1845, Reclam Universal Bibliotek No. 5048, p. 103; Cf. Meyer's Volksbibliothek für Lander-, Völker- u. Naturkunde; Hildburghausen u. New-York, 1853—56. vol. 27, p. 60.

[3]) In the Athos monastery of Vatopaedi in a new building which was built for a theological academy; ibid p. 102.

[4]) Greek theologian and educator. Many noted Bulgarians studied in the school established by him, like Ilarion Makariopolski, Dobrovolski, Tchomacoff etc.

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ried about the faith of the heavenly light of Tabor, of the pilgrim caravans, of the spiritual credit and the annual ceremonies of sacrifice and devotion, as well as of the rigidity of their own discipline. Bulgari and his school were destined to perish. At first, they started with insinuations and innuendoes against the learned master, by undermining his authority. They cast suspicion on the morals of teacher and students and gave unfavourable reports to the Greek church authorities in Constantinople. They found no peace in their mind until this man volunteered with his resignation. Disgusted, he left and, after a short stay at Phanar, he betook himself to Russia where a brilliant future was awaiting him... The enchantment of the environment left with the retirement of the director. The students were scattered, the life of the Academy declined and it was closed finally by rescript of the Oecumenical Patriarch on the ground that it was „objectionable to religion and morality“. Happy over their victory, the monks tore down the roof of the building and knocked out its doors with the intention of removing all hopes for the return of the run away enemy. Rich mountain bushes project to day (1841—our note) from the gaping doorways and, instead of the smiling youthful faces over the window sills, evergreen weeds and creaping wild shrubs are hanging.“.

Does not this sound like a story of the Middle Ages? And yet this event took place just 175 years ago and not in the dark period of the Middle Ages,

17. A Small Illustration, 1837. Mr. Misheff, member of, the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences relates the following story[1]), which we would use here as an illustration:

„The central localities had to struggle long against the encroachments and hostile resistance of the Greek clergy. In 1837 Hadji Valko Chaluckoff made up his mind to open a Bulgarian school in Plovdiv (Philippopol) and invited Neophit of Rila to be its schoolmaster. Before realizing his project, he advised the Greek bishop of his intention. The latter, after hearing from him about it, said: „Chorbadji (Squire), you know well that I have nothing to say against your enterprise personally, but in view of the strict orders which we have from our Patriarchate to watch closely every effort on the part of the Bulgarians to start schools, especially in the cities, I am duty bound to bring your intention of opening such an institution to the knowledge of the Patriarchate. I am sure that the Patriarchate would not manifest its opposition right away, nor will it take immediate steps to close it, but in the long run it will find a plausible cause to discredit you before the Government, with the result that you would be exiled and your school closed. If you, therefore, care to guard your own nterests, you better desist from your undertaking".

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[1]) D. Misheff, The Bulgarians in the Past. Lausanne, 1916, pp. 297—298.

After thinking it over, the Bulgarian notables decided to open a school in Koprivshtitsa instead. In 1840 the Bulgarians in Plovdiv made an effort to start a school of their own, or at least to have the Bulgarian language taught in the existing common schools which vere opened for all pupils. The Greek bishop Charysantos not only objected to having „the barbarous and dissonant" Slav-Bulgarian language (as he described it) studied in the schools, but protested immediately to the Ottoman authorities against the wishes of the Bulgarian notables, whom he accused being prompted by revolutionary ideas and, therefore, acted as enemies of the state".

This „episode" is contemporaneous to the times of Dickens, Lamenais, Hebbel, Gogol and to the period of the first railroads in Europe.

18. The Renaissance of the Bulgarian Nation, 1762.

On the subject of Bulgarian renaissance, we will quote the words of Prof. Shishmanoff*): „By a fatal coincidence, unfortunately, Western European Renaissance began just when the Balkan peoples, battered completely, fell under the brutal and merciles dominion of the conqueror... To evaluate the full tragedy of our national misfortune, suffice it to state, that the period of Western European Renaissance is the period of the greatest discoveries: the discovery of the New and Ancient Worlds, the discovery of America of one hand and of Hellas and Rome on the other. This is the age of Coper-

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*) Prof. Iv. D. Shishmanoff. Western European and Bulgarian Renaissance; Bulgarian Historical Library, year I, p. 166. (in Bulgarian).

nicus and Galileo who opened for us the celestial world. We 175
have at ths time the invention of the art of printing which helped the spread of ideas by books. Here is the age of most gifted masters of speech, beauty and marble, like Petrarch and Boccacio, Ariosto and Tasso, Camoens and Servantes, of Rabelais and Montaigne, of Shakespeare, Michel-Angelo, Leonardo da Vinci, Rafael and Tician. This is the period of great philosophers like Bacon, Giordano Bruno etc. etc... Bulgaria was unable to benefit by all these miracles of rich material, intellectual, spiritual and esthetic culture... At this same time, our half illiterate monks the only representatives of our intellectual life in this remote dark age, contemporaries of Ariosto and Tasso, of Shakespeare and Servantes, of Rafael and Tician, devoted their lives to the painstaking and tedious work of copying the lives of saints or of painting ikons, which betryed the complete conventionality and frigidity of Byzantine art!"

But neither the Turkish political, nor the Greek ecclesia- 175
stical slavery were in a position to suppress the spirit of the 814
Bulgarian nation. It was encouraged by the enlightened
groups of artizans, merchants and clergymen. A bright spark 186
flashed all of a sudden in this dark period. This spark was the Slavic Bulgarian history of a Bulgarian monk of Macedonian origin called Paissi Hilendarski[1]). This was a hand written manuscript of 1762, which told the Bulgarian people of their glorious past, of their Kings and Patriarchs. The manuscript was called by the common people "The Book of Kings" and was copied and distributed widely in the Bulgarian lands. The plea of this Bulgarian monk to his people was "Oh Bulgarians, get to know your origin and your language". This was a forward call for the hard struggle to obtain schools and churches, enlightement, civilization and freedom of conscience: a struggle against anything that was Greek. The hatred, accumulated for centuries past — already 1083 years old — broke out with new force. This was the Bulgarian Renaissance.

"The Bulgarian Renaissance, as a process of develop- 178
ment, has something in common with the Renaissance of 186
Westren Europe:

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[1]) A monk of the Hilendar Monastery, Mont Alhos.

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B 178 186 „1. The Renaissance in both cases is not a casual or sudden change, but it passes trough a period of transition and preparation. The transitory period is the Middle Ages. The only difference is that the Middle Ages ended for Europe in the beginning of the 14th century, while in Bulgaria it lasted until the end of the 18th century.

„2. In both cases the carriers and promoters of the Renaissance ideas were men of public and economic affairs.

„3. Both in Italy an in Bulgaria, the leader of the movement appeared to be a prominent person: Petrarch in Italy and Paissi in Bulgaria.

„4. What particularly brings our Bulgarian Renaissance close to the Western European is the new conception of things national, of the national spirit and the reversion of language and literature to their original sources to this conception“.[1])

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19. Bulgarian Exarchate. National Bulgarian Church, 1872.

We find the idea of the church at the bottom of Bulgarian national thought.

The conception of a national church is the fundamental thought that runs through Bulgarian history up to the present times.

The well known Romanian historian prof. N. Yorga stresses particularly the specific significance of the Bulgarian church in the political life of the Bulgarians:[2]) „The Bulgarian tradition, however, continued to live in the church, and this church represented the culture, the city life, the old and only intrinsic opposition in this same imperial conception against Hellenism, which conquered Byzantium“.

The Bulgarians had accumulated in their hearts a profound animosity against the Greeks. Anything that was Greek was a synonym of oppression for them. Their ideal for freedom and independence was snugly preserved in their lofty mountains. The struggle for it began with new force and vigor. It was now a struggle for education, cultural advancement, free-

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[1]) Shishmanoff, opus cit. p. 191.

[2]) N. Yorga; Histoire des Roumains et de la Roumanie Orientale vol. III, p. 112, Bukarest 1937; Cif. Prof. Nicolaeff, op. cit. p. 127.

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dom of conscience and a struggle for free national church and school.

So, 100 years after the appearance of the history of Paissi (1760 — 1860), the Bulgarian settlement in Constantinople, denied the Greek Patriarchate in a solemn religious service and presented a petition to the Turkish Government for an independent Bulgarian National Church. This was a church revolutionary act. It puzzled and confused the Turkish Government, because it came from the most numerous Christian population in the Balkan Peninsula and from a people who had such an advanced national consciousness, that they felt already the approach of their political liberation, which actually took place 18 years later.

The Turks tried to frighten the Bulgarian nation by the ostrich methods of their policy of half measures. The Government exiled the Bulgarian bishops and refused to acknowledge the approaching danger for the Ottoman Empire. All these methods were of no avail. The Bulgarian nation was firmly convinced in the justice of its demands and rights and the danger for the Turkish Government had become so imminent, that it could not help but surrender its position, and on February 28, 1872 the Sultan issued a proclamation and authorized the establishment of an Independent Bulgarian National Church as the Bulgarian Exarchate, manned and managed by an ecclesiastical staff of its own, comming from the people.

20. Schisme. The Greek Anathema, 1872.

This enormous Bulgarian success forced the helpless Greek Patriarch to take rash steps. On May 13, 1872 he proclamed the schism of the Bulgarian church and cast anathema on the Bulgarians. History has never registered a more ridiculous anathema. This actually turned to be a blessing for the success of the Bulgarian national cause, because it led to the attainment of their political liberty. The reconciliation of the two churches was brought about finally in 1945.

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21. The Turkish Rule of That Time.

Turkey was in a sad and pityful state at the end of the 19th century. The Turkish rule, clinging to its practices of the Middle Ages and having no intention of

175 reforming the excercise of its authority, had become an unbearable oppression for the Bulgarians, which were the most persecuted of all Balkan nations. A sample of Turkish administration, though not one of the most characteristic for that time, is found in the repport of the British correspondent Robert J. More:[1])

Revenue and expenses for the district of Philippopolis:

Revenue for 1874-75

	In Turkish Lires	
	1874	1875
Army exemption tax	151,410	169,303
Tithes and contribution farmed out	249,868	461,335
Tithes collected by the Government	154,300	115,405
Different	1,725	1,839
Duty of vine, tobacco, and stamps	23,516	50,604
LT.	580,820	798,487

Expenses for 1874-75

Expenses for internal administration	6,882	6,791
„ „ financial department	16,839	15,455
„ „ courts and juges' salaries	3,391	3,349
„ „ public education	1,011	1,048
„ „ public buildings	1,021	—
LT.	29,144	26,643

„From this synopsis it will be seen that, whilst the revenue of 1875 increased to the extent of about LT. 200,000, the administrative expenses of the district decreased by nearly LT. 3,000. But as the Bulgarian Christian male population in the sandjak of Philippopolis is 204,000; whilst that of the Mohammedan is only 140,000, it follows that the greatly preponderating amount of taxes is paid by the former, in addition to which must be taken into consideration the relative degree of industry of the two races. Whilst only LT. 1000 is expended on education, and this exclusively on Turkish primary schools, not a farthing is spend on Bulgarian education. Again, whilst LT. 26,500 is paid in governmental salaries, only LT. 200 is received, collectively, by the ten Bulgarian representatives who are members of the department of justice“. More says further about the Turkish unwillingness to help Bulgarian education the following (p. 25 and 26):

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[1]) Robert Jaspar More, Under the Balkans; notes of a visit to the Districts of Philippopolis in 1876, London, 1877. p. 20. R. J. More investigated with other European correspondents Turkish atrocities in South Bulgaria during 1876. Philippopolis or Plovdiv is the capital of South Bulgaria.

„The rapid spread of the educational movement in Bulgaria, from the admirable elementary education of the free village schools, to the training of the sons of landed proprietors and the commercial classes at Robert College[1]), carries conviction that there will be no lack elements for local self-government in Roumelia[2]), if only the moral and material resources of the country are allowed free development. It seems a pity that, whilst the Russians were helping this movement, the English were denying the qualification of the Bulgarian to govern themselves... No printing is allowed in this place (Plovdiv); and the only newspapers taken in at any public place of ressort are in Greek language...“ in spite of the fact, that, according to More the distribution of the population of the Sandjak (of Philippopolis = Plovdiv) was as follows:

Bulgarians	**200,335**	**or**	**57,6 %**
Turks	**127,260**	**„**	**36,7 %**
Gypsies	**13,892**	**„**	**4,0 %**
Greeks	***4,000***	**„**	***1,1 %***
Jews	**2,059**	**„**	**0,6 %**
Armenians	**477**	**„**	**0,1 %**
Total	**347,723**	**or**	**100,0 %**

The high officials in Turkey at that time were in a large degree illiterates.

22. Insurrection and Atrocities, 1595-1876.

On top of the cultural and economic inconsistencies of the Ottoman Empire, the political situation had deteriorated to such an extent, that unrest and revolt set in among the Bulgarians about the end of the 16th century. The Bulgarians, who were situated in the heart of the empire, were subjected to an impossible treatment. The first insurrection took place in 1596 and others followed in 1688. More recent insurrections were those of the Morava districts at Nish and the vicinity in 1841, then at Vidin in 1850, at Tirnovo in 1854 and, especially, the insurrections of 1867 to 1868. The Central Revolutionary Committee abroad was formed in 1869. It took in the foremost revolutionary leaders at the time. Finally the revolt of the Sredna Gora region, the „Kingdom of Roses", broke out in 1876. This revolt was suppressed and drowned in streams of blood. The atrocities committed by the regular and irregular Turkish forces excited the whole civilized world. The European newspapers dispatched some of their ablest correspondents on the spot and public opinion was fully informed, for the first time, about the enslaved Bulgarians and about the actual situation in Turkey. The roses of Bulgaria were tinted profusely with the blood of the Bulgarians. Many foreigners that know Bulgaria as „the Land of Roses" have hardly heard of the tragedy which these roses witnessed in silence.

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[1]) Robert College, founded in Constantinople by the Americans Dr. Cyrus Hamlin and the New-York business man Mr. Christopher Robert in 1863. Many noted Bulgarians and Bulgarian statesmen studied and are graduated from this college.

[2]) At present South Bulgaria.

23. The Conference of Ambassadors of Constantinople, 1876-1877.

Even the diplomatic representatives in Constantinople, who were not distinguished with any marked sympathies for the suffering Bulgarians, were compelled to undertake an investigation of the Turkish rule in these enslaved lands. This investigation brought out some very incriminating evidence against the authority of the Turks. The Ambassadors' Conference (1876-77) recommended some reforms for Turkey, along with the establishment of an autonomous district for the Bulgarians. The Turkish Government rejected the proposals of the ambassadors and the War of Liberation broke out in 1877.

24. Russo-Turkish War, 1877-1878.

The noted English writer H. G. Wells, writes in his interesting book „Outline of History": [1])

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[1]) H. G. Wells, Outline of History, vol. III, p. 1013-14; New-York 1910/41.

„A fresh upthrust of what we have here called the natural map against the diplomatic arrangements of the treaty of Vienna began in 1875, when the Christian races in the Balkan, and particulary the Bulgarians became restless and insurgent. The Turks adopted violent repressive measures, and embarked upon massacres of the Bulgarians on an enormous scale. Thereupon Russia intervened (1877), and after a year of costly warfare obliged the Turks to sign the treaty of San Stefano, which was, on the whole, a sensible treaty, breaking up the artifical Turkish Empire, and to a large extend establishing the natural map. But it had became the tradition of British policy to thwart „the designs of Russia" — heaven knows why! — whenever Russia appeared to have a design, and the British foreign office, under the premiership of Lord Beaconsfield, intervened with a threat of war if a considerable restauration of the Turks' facilities for exaction, persecution and massacres was not made. For a time war seemed very probable. In consequence of the British opposition, a conference was assembled in 1878 at Berlin to revise the treaty of San Stefano, chiefly in the interests of Turkish and Austrian monarchies and Lord Beaconsfield returned triumphantly from the Berlin Conference, with what the British were given to understand at the time was „Peace with Honour." This treaty of Berlin was the second main factor... in bringing about the great war of 1914-18."

Let us hear two more authors on the subject of the causes of the Russo-Turkish war of 1878, the Peace Treaty of San Stefano and the Congress of Berlin. One of them, is John Richard Green[1]) in his popular book „A Short History of the English People."

„Reports of atrocities commited by bashi-bozouks in Bulgaria began to reach England and Lord Derby, the foreign minister, trough the British ambassador at the Port, demanded from the Sultan immediate and adequate reparation. By this time indignation in England had reached its high pitch, but it was roused to flame by Gladstone's pamphlet „The Bulgarian Horrors and the Question of the East" which was circulated far and wide. This tract is populary remembered for its demand that the British governement,

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[1]) In fact this chapter of Green's history is written by R. P. Farley, who continued this classic work.

„which has been working in one direction, shall in the other, and shall applay all his vigour to concur with the other states of Europe in obtaining the extinction of the Turkish executive power in Bulgaria. Let the Turks now carry away their abuses in the only possible manner, namely, by carrying off themselves. Their zapties and their mudirs, their bimbashis and their youzbashis, their kaimakams and their pashas, one and all, bag and baggage shall, I hope, clear out of the province they have desolated and profaned“... By the treaty of San Stefano... Bulgaria was to be constituted an autonomous Principality with a Christian Governement and a national militia, to extend from the Danube to the Aegean, and nearly as far south as Adrinople and Salonica. Great Britain insisted that Treaty should be submitted to an European Congress, which was held at the Berlin on June 8 and was attended by Lord Beaconsfield and Lord Salisbury. Why these distinguished men should have taken the trouble to cross to Berlin is not obvious to the plain intelligence, seeing that Lord Salisbury had already (on May 30) signed a secret convention with count Shouvaloff, and a secret treaty had also been concluded with the Porte... By the Treaty of Berlin, which was signed an July 13, the terms of the Treaty of San Stefano were confirmed with certain vital exceptions. Bulgaria was to consist of a narrow tract of land between the Danube and the Balkans and to have autonomy under the suzerenity of Turkey. The area to the south of Bulgaria, Eastern Rumelia, was to be restored to the Sultan... This Treaty was the cause of friction and misunderstanding with Russia... and it is highly questionable if the policy of keeping the Turks in Europe has been justified by results.“

The other author is the great French writer André Maurois who has wide connections among the British public. In his wellknovn book „La vie de Disraeli“ [1]), he gives the following characteristic features, which agree well with the impression left to us by the quotations from H. G. Wells and Green: „Lord Beaconsfield remains calm. He considers the treaty (of San Stefano) unacceptable. He advises Shouvaloff that he will not attend the Congress unless a direct Anglo-

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[1]) Edition Hachette, 1927.

Russian understanding is reached on the important points (p. 221). Feeble old men, relaxed on the cushions of their sleepers which were converging on Berlin from Brussels and Petersburg, Beaconsfield and Gortchakoff were moved by the same sentiment... All the states were arriving with secret conventions at this Conference where a treaty was supposed to be discused in a liberal manner... Neither Gortchakoff nor Beaconsfield were geographers. Gortchakoff liked, as he used to say, to deal with the main and important points, i. e. he built phrazes, but placed in front of a map he was unable to find even Batum (p. 229).

„Beaconsfield found Bismark very changed, but he observed in him the tone he liked, simple and real. a little bit chagrinned, with crude sincerity and things awful spoken in a sweet voice ringing out of this huge body. Bismark told him that he intended to attend the Congress beating the drum. He found it necessary, however, to devote the first days, while the dispositions were still favourable, to the great questions which might become the cause of war. They were to begin, therefore, with Bulgaria... And so everything was O. K... Apart from Bismark and himself (Beaconsfield) there were no other grand characters... Bismark went on with the abruptness of a military. Al- of a sudden, the division of Bulgaria in two separate parts along the line of the Balkan rang was adopted without discussions... (p. 225/6).“

We feel it would be interesting to quote the following passage also which suggests the original thought of the German invasion of the Balkans:

„Beaconsfield, on his part, divined the far flung aspirations of the chancellor: standing in front of a huge map of the world, they were discussing the prospects of colonisation and Bismark, considering that it would be politically expedient, took the part of an opponent, while Beaconsfield's index finger roamed over the Balkan provinces. „Do you not think, said he, that here is a fine place for colonisation?“ Bismark looked at him and said nothing. (p. 228).“

This is the sad story, so well presented by distinguished European writers. Lord Beaconsfield returned triumphantly from Berlin with what the British were to believe „Peace and Honour“.

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25. This Situation Resulted in Wars, 1885 — 1914.

War followed war. A fratricidal war between Bulgaria and Serbia was provoked in 1885/6 by the Serbs: They took advantage of a bloodless revolution in Bulgaria, that united the free North (Danube) Bulgaria with the autonomous province of Eastern Rumelia (South Bulgaria) which was still under Turkish suzerainty. By this act the Bulgarian nation ammended one of the arbitrary arrangements of the Berlin Treaty.

Necessity, however, imposed on Bulgaria and Serbia to forget their past troubles and misunderstandings and made them attempt a rapprochement for the solution of the remaining unsolved Balkan problem — the liberation of the rest of the unredeemed Slavs from the Turkish yoke. This policy did not only bring together these two main factors for peace and order in the Balkans, but it brought about the union of all Balkan states: Bulgaria, Serbia, Montenegro and Greece, against the oppressor of Balkan liberty and progress — Turkey (1911). Events accelerated the inevitable war. Uprisals broke out in Albania during 1911. There was unrest among the Albanians in the neighbouring districts also. The Young Turks perpetrated many cruelties and murders arousing Western Europe. The Balkan Commitee in London protested with a manifesto. The British bishops headed by the Archbishop of Canterbury addressed a writen protest to the Sultan and the Turkish Parliament (January 25, 1912). This protest drew attention to the suppression of all political liberties, to the terrible attrocities etc. and in conclusion said that there was nothing worse than the life in Macedonia. The butcheries in Kotchane (Macedonia) and Berat (Albania) followed. The united Balkan states required, both through the good offices of the Great Powers and directly from Turkey, the application of article 23 of the Treaty of Berlin, which provided the introduction of reforms that Turkey took upon herself to apply 66 years ago! War broke out on October 18, 1912 and ended with the full defeat of Turkey but at the same time with a scramble among the allies, who were unable to agree on the division of the Turkish Balkan dominions! Bulgaria claimed the biggest share proportionate to her military significance in the war and to her largest losses in men and materials. Instead she was mislead to enter in the war against her former allies, and the Balkan problems vere solved in a manner which established the cause

8: Bojkoff K-4, 5 (no date) 1946 FE1 Bulgaria EE1

175 for new wars. Nevertheless, Bulgaria obtained an outlet on the Aegean Sea and this was recognized as a reasonable act by all Balkan peoples (1913).

721 The events in Europe that brought about the First World War found Bulgaria on the side of Germany. The violation of essential Bulgarian rights after the Balkan wars and the outrage exercised by the former allies (1912) of Bulgaria over the Bulgarian population, left under the foreign domination, had much to do in leading Bulgaria to take this fatal decision, which was absolutely opposed to the highest interests of the Bulgarian nation. The Carnegie Foundation made an investigation (1914) to establish the truth about cruelties practiced by both sides over the peaceful population and their abuse of the international rules for carrying on war. We may safely say that Bulgaria came out with honor as a result of this investigation, while the same could not be said about the Greek army, as we will point out this further in our study.

728 The World War of 1914-1918 ended for Bulgaria with the Treaty of Neuilly. Bulgaria was punished in an unprecedented manner. The biggest punishment, however, was depriving her from the outlet on the Aegean Sea, which all Balkan peoples unanimously recognized as her reasonable right in spite of their inimical attitude.

26. The Peace Treaty of Neuilly, 1919.

If we consider the Peace Treaty of Berlin as a fatal step for the peace in Europe, then the Treaty of Versailles - Neuilly was the unpardonable repetition of the same fault for the Balkans. It was a peace arrangement fostered by statesmen who were blinded by revenge. Clemenceau, Lloyd George, Balfour, Sonino and Orlando were the authors of a peace of „politicians“. Dillon[1]) speaks of them as follows: „They were novices in international affairs. Geography, ethnology, psychology and political history were forbidden books for them. What they lacked might have been supplied, to a large degree, by a selection of counsellors more widely informed than they. They chose, however, the help of mediocrities. Since the heads of the main governments, by implication, pretended to be the authorized representatives of the human

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[1]) Dillon, The Peace Conference; cif. H. G. Wells, opus cit. vol. III, p. 1114.

728 race, invested with unlimited power, it should be pointed out, that this claimed ordination was seriously opposed by the public press. Almost all popular newspapers criticized the dictatorship of this band of prime ministers“. H. G. Wells points out very properly how the Peace Conference was reduced from a Council of Ten to a Council of Four (Wilson, Clemenceau, Lloyd George and Orlando) and how it gradually turned from a conference of free and open discussion for the future welfare of all, to an old fashioned diplomatic conspiracy. Was not the Berlin Conference of 1878 this kind of „old fashioned diplomatic conspiracy?“ History was repeating itself for the Balkan Slavs. The ground was being prepared for future wars.

There could hardly be a better description of the situation after Versailles 1918, than the one given us by an enlightened and farsighted writer like H. G. Wells: [1])

„When we consider the transitoriness of the settlements effected by the diplomatists, we are impressed at once by the feebleness of their diplomacy and the realization of the strong intractable forces that defeated their manœvres and arrangements. We are still more impressed by the uninstructed ineffectivness of the new international idealism imported into European interchanges by President Wilson. His Fourten Points were left by these treaties like a row of ruined and tattered houses in a bombarded village. Some had gone altogheter; other were twisted out of recognition. The first attempt to produce a world law passed away like a burst of laughter in a tavern“.

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27. What a Frech Author says about the Bulgarians.

A Frenchman, Cyprien Robert, writes in his book 1844: Les Slaves de Turquie Serbes, Monténégrins, Bosniaques, Albanais et Bulgares; leurs ressources, leurs tendances et leurs progrès politiques; Paris, 1844, vol. I. p. 228: [2])

„A subjected and unfortunate nation lives at the outskirts of Europe. Its name is hardly known to the world of to-day, but its people are worthy of our attention. They are the Bulgarians, who have preserved their old habits, their burning faith, their noble character, even during the time of their worse slavery, and after a glorious past, it looks as if they are destined to play an important part in the future... They number 4.500.000 people. The continental depth of their country corresponds more or less to the length of their sea coast. The Bulgarians tend to penetrate further south in Thrace, which is a desert country abandoned by the Turks to shepherds, who managed to colonize it day after day. They expand in the direction of Greece down to the heart of the Greek provinces, whose inhabitants leave the valleys and the mountains to the new comers in order to segregate in the cities and along the sea coast. We notice here the full force of the opposite tendencies of the two races. While the Slav tends to colonize and settle on the land, the Greek makes use of the sea and establishes his cities and business centres along the sea coast. Had these two opposite forces acted together, they would have worked wonders for the regeneration of the East.

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[1]) H. G. Wells; op. cit. vol. III, p. 1124.

[2]) German translation — Die Slaven in der Türkei, Stuttgart, 1851; 2-nd edition; vol, 2, p. 191.

„The geographer, who overlooks the significance of the movement and displacement of races, continued to put the border of Bulgaria at the line separating it from Thrace, Macedonia and Albania, three provinces abounding with Bulgarians... A short strip of the Archipelago coast belongs entirely to Bulgarian families... The Bulgarians in Salonica are so numerous that the double Slav and Greek domination of the city could hardly be denied. If the Slav element were excluded from it, a sanguinary reaction would set in on the peninsula. The Bulgarians occupy very important localities in Thrace also, and at Injik, a small factory town near Constantinople, they form the basis of the population. If we turn our attention to the lands of East Albania, we will notice that the native language of whole provinces is Bulgarian. Such natives we find as far down as Livadia and meet them even in Morea. The colonizing and penetrating capacity of this people is due to their flexible and industrious character. Prefering country life, the Slavs left the cities willingly to the Greeks, and, in this manner, they formed the most numerous race in the Ottoman Empire, not excluding even the Greeks... Numerous are the reason for the annual increase of the Bulgarian population. The Turkish population, on the other hand, is on the decline everywhere. The great desire of the Bulgarian to increase his race, coupled with the purity of his habits, protects him against many diseases, which cause great mortality..."

000 **28. Western Thrace.** Western Thrace is an Aegean Sea province surrounded on both sides by the lower courses of the rivers Maritza and Mesta and on the north by the watershed between the river Arda and the Aegean Sea (Fig. 5). This inclosure slopes towards the said sea and has a sea coast line of about 85 miles or 135 kilometers. Its surface is about half the size of Albania and the USA state of Connecticut is 1,33 times larger than it.

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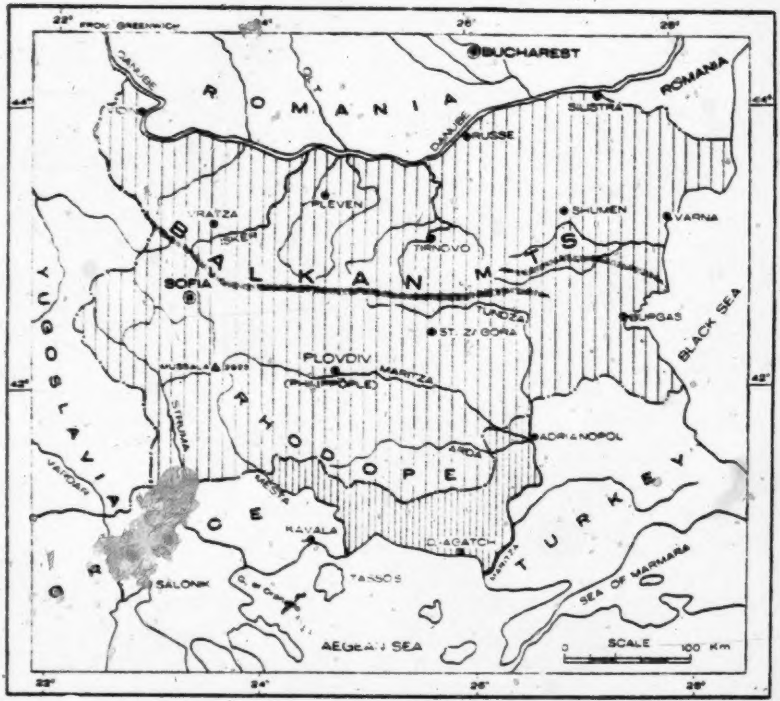

22° FROM GREENWICH
24°
26°
28°
44°
42°
BUCHAREST
ROMANIA
ROMANIA
DANUBE
DANUBE
OLT
SILISTRA
RUSSE
PLEVEN
VRATZA
ISKER
SHUMEN
VARNA
BALKAN MTS
TIRNOVO
SOFIA
TUNDZA
BURGAS
BLACK SEA
ST. ZAGORA
PLOVDIV
(PHILIPPOPLE)
MARITZA
MUSSALA
YUGOSLAVIA
STRUMA
RHODOPE
ARDA
ADRIANOPOL
VARDAR
MESTA
GREECE
KAVALA
D. AGATCH
TURKEY
MARITZA
SEA OF MARMARA
SALONIK
TASSOS
AEGEAN SEA
SCALE
0
100 Km

Fig. 5. Bulgaria and Western Thrace.

000 Travellers, who studied the ethnographic limits of the Bulgarian people during the 18th and 19th century speak of the Bulgarian character of Western Thrace.

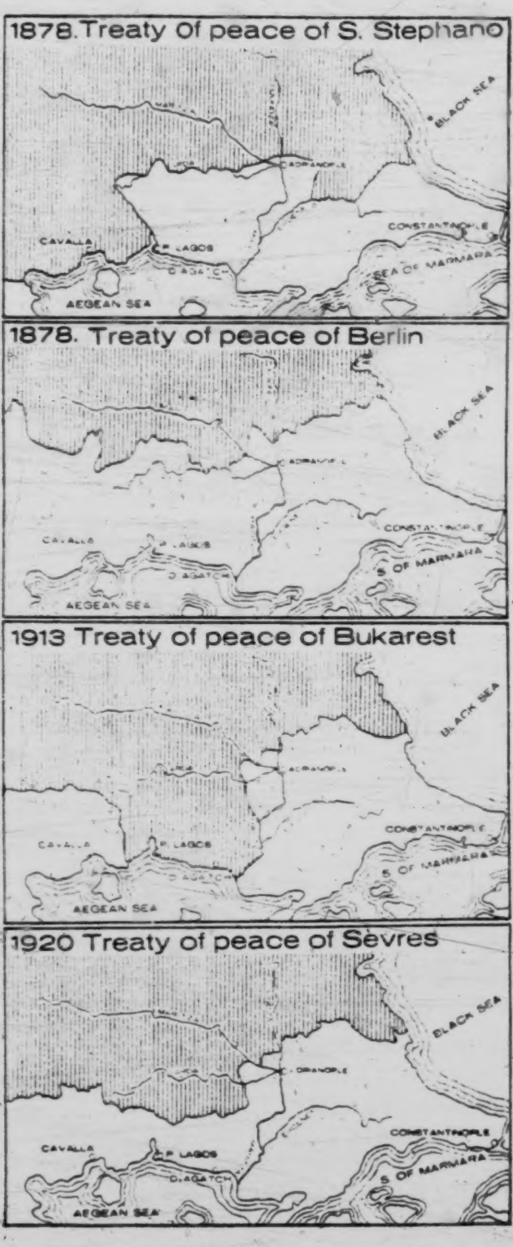
728 The border between Bulgaria and Western Thrace, or the territorial outlet of Bulgaria to the Aegean Sea, has a history of its own. The San Stefano Treaty gave an Aegean Sea outlet to Bulgaria on the gulf of Salonica, by the estuary of the Vardar River, and also from the gulf of Or-

phano to Kavala near Burughiol beyond the mouth of Mesta River. The Berlin Treaty deprived Bulgaria of this outlet. The London Treaty of 1913, at the end of the Balkan War, gave Bulgaria again a territorial outlet to this sea and established the Eastern frontier of Turkey at the line Enos—Midia.

The Bucarest Peace Conference granted Bulgaria an outlet between the estuaries of Mesta and Maritsa rivers, which included the natural sea port of this region, Dédé-Agach. This port was the terminal at the end of the Maritsa valley, along which run the roads to the Aegean Sea. The lower course of Maritsa became the border line between Bulgaria and Turkey, according to an understanding which took place between the two states in 1915. It provided the cession of a strip of land around Adrianopol to Turkey, which included the railroad station of that city, Kara-Agach, at the railroad line from the Bulgarian frontier to Dédé-Agach.

The Great War of 1914—1918 ended with the peace of Neuilly (1918) for Bulgaria. It brought countless sanctions of revenge to the Bulgarian people. One of them was found in article 48, which provided: „Bulgaria renounces in favour of the Principal Associated and Allied Powers all her rights and titles over the territory of Thrace which formerly belonged to the Bulgarian monarchy and which, being outside of the new frontiers of Bulgaria, are not allocated to any one as yet. Bulgaria binds herself to recognise the decisions of the Principal Associated and Allied Powers with regards to these territories. The Principal Allied and Associated Powers bind themselves to guarantee the freedom of economic outlets for Bulgaria to the Aegean Sea. The conditions of this guarantee will be determined later.“

This was a deception, because it had already been decided to give these territories to Greece, and the Principal Allied and Associated Powers renounced later the guaranteed outlet also. At the Conference of San Remo (19—26 April, 1920), which was a continuation of the Paris Peace Conference and in which Bulgaria did not take part, it was decided, at the suggesttion of Lloyd George assisted by Venizelos, that Greece should obtain both Western and Eastern Thrace as far as the line of Tchataldja. General Charpy, governor-general of Western Thrace from 1918 until 1920, started the withdrawal of his forces,



1878. Treaty Of peace of S. Stephano

1878. Treaty of peace of Berlin

1913 Treaty of peace of Bukarest

1920 Treaty of peace of Sèvres

BLACK SEA
ADRIANOPLE
CONSTANTINOPLE
CAVALLA
P. LAGOS
D. AGATCH
SEA OF MARMARA
S OF MARMARA
AEGEAN SEA

Fig. 6. The Aegean Coast passes from hand to hand, like a play ball for 67 years!

8: Bojkoff K-4, 5 (no date) 1946 EEI Bulgaria EE1

upon which the Greeks occupied this territory. Article 1 of the Peace Treaty of Sèvres, signed August 10, 1920, stipulated the following: „The Principal Allied and Associated Powers declare that they transfer to Greece all rights and titles they have over the territories of Thrace, by virtue of article 48 of the Peace Treaty of Neuilly with Bulgaria.“ Article 4 undermined the guarantee given to Bulgaria for an economic outlet to the Aegean Sea, by substituting for it the stipulation „freedom of transit is recognized over the territory and ports of Greece“. Bulgaria was not a party to these negotiations and decisions and the Sèvres Treaty was ratified by none of the participants in this conference. Consequently, Bulgaria claimed properly that the question about her territorial outlet was open still by dint of right. The subject was taken up again at Lausanne (Aprill 23 — June 24, 1924), in connection with peace negotiations between Turkey and Greece. These negotiations ended by returning to Turkey Eastern Thrace up to Maritsa. Turkey received also that strip of land around the railroad station Kara-Agach in such a queer arrangement, that the railroad from the Bulgarian frontier to Dédé-Agach runs at the present time first through Greek territory, then through Turkish and again through Greek territory. 728

This is then the famous „freedom of transit“ over Greek territory!

29. Fooling with a Sea Coast. The Aegean Sea coast passed from hand to hand like a play ball for 67 years. It was a foul game played against the interests of the Balkan peoples and Eastern Europe in general. Here is a graphic representation of the different stages of this game (Fig. 6). 000

30. The Aegean Sea Locked by the Greeks! The Balkan Peninsula is surrounded by three seas: The Adriatic and Ionian sea, this is the sea of Yugoslavia, Albania, Greece and Italy; the Black sea, the sea of Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey and USSR; and the Aegean sea, which is the most accessible sea in South Eastern Europe. Greece wishes to have it locked for herself (Fig. 7)). Could there be any serious defence for such a policy from the [31]

OOO stand point of essential economic interests and ethnographic rights? The argument would not hold good in either of these two instances and the answer would be decidedly in the negative. The extensive economy of the region, the suffering of the Rhodope population and the forcible expatriation of the Slavic, respectively Bulgarian, population justify a negative reply to the question.

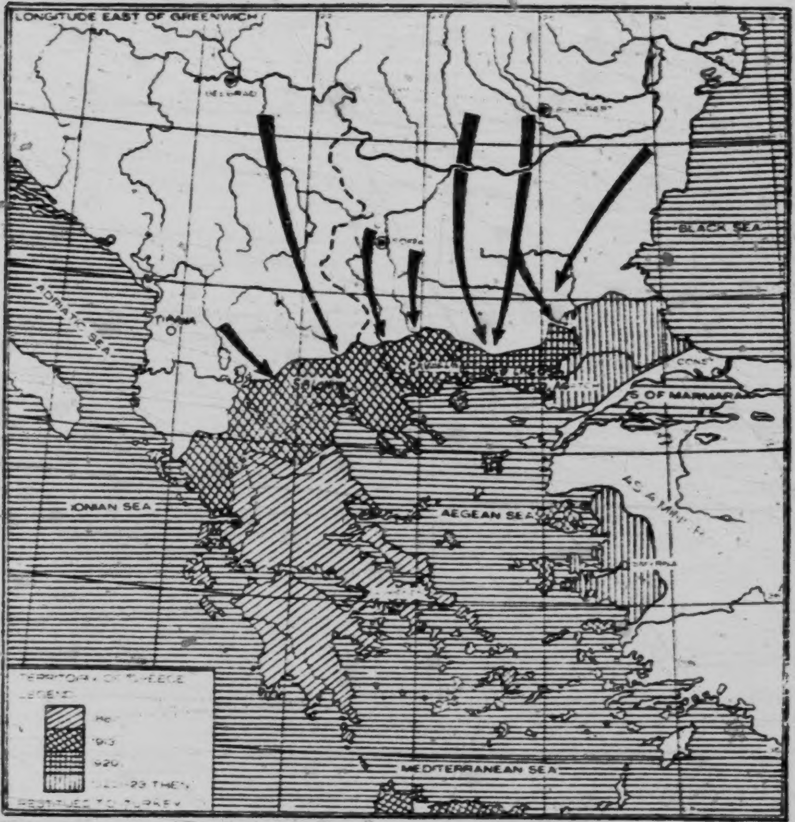

LONGITUDE EAST OF GREENWICH
BLACK SEA
ADRIATIC SEA
TIRANA
IONIAN SEA
AEGEAN SEA
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
TERRITORY OF GREECE
LEGEND

Fig. 7. Greece wishes to have locked for herself the Aegean Sea.

31. Opinions on the Bulgarian Outlet to the Aegean Sea. There are many points of view on the subject, but we will quote only some of them. The French politician Georges Desbon says: „The representatives at San Remo broke one tradition. They overlooked earlier events. They thought that the specialists on Eastern European problems were ignorant; that the members of the Ambassadors' Conference in Constantinople of 1877 were simple minded and naive; and that the authors of the Treaty of San Stefano, London and Bucarest were common idlers". Francesco Nitti, the president of the San Remo Conference says: „It seemed as if the Agreement recognized the need of a sea only to the victors and to countries which were friendly to the allied Nations. Bulgaria was deprived of an outlet to the Aegean Sea, which, obviously, she did not feel any need of, according to the principles embodied in the Agreement". [1])

32. Ancient Hellenic Colonisation.

One of the most interesting chapters of the history of the Balkan Peninsula, which we would barely touch upon in this study, is about the ancient Greece spreading around the coast of the Mediterranean sea and blocking the roads leading from the interrior to the estuaries of the most important South European rivers. [2])

The decline of agriculture in old Hellas and the unproductive soil forced the Greeks to look for new regions to colonize, where they could find the necessary supply of agricultural products. This is the beginning of Greek colonization. It started very early, but for our purpose, we will dwell mostly on the so called third colonization period which extends from the eighth until the fifth century B. C. (Fig. 8). The starting points of this colonization were the towns of Asia Minor, which were also the original Hellenic colonies. Commercial offices were established at first, and gradually these business centers turned into supply depots and colonies. Such settlements we find along the Black Sea and the Thracian sea coast. Most of them had as their metropolitan center the rich city of Asia Minor called Miletus, The big colonies were situated at the mouths of the big rivers, where the roads from the interrior lands of the „barbarians" terminated. Being clever merchants and cunning people, the Hellens managed to drain

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[1]) Francesco Nitti; Europe Without Peace.

[2]) L. Bochkov; Quelques Notes sur les Communications dans les Balkans; Principales lignes ferroviaires. Ponts sur le Danube. Issue à la mer Egée; Sofia, 1945, edit. Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and Arts, p. 26.

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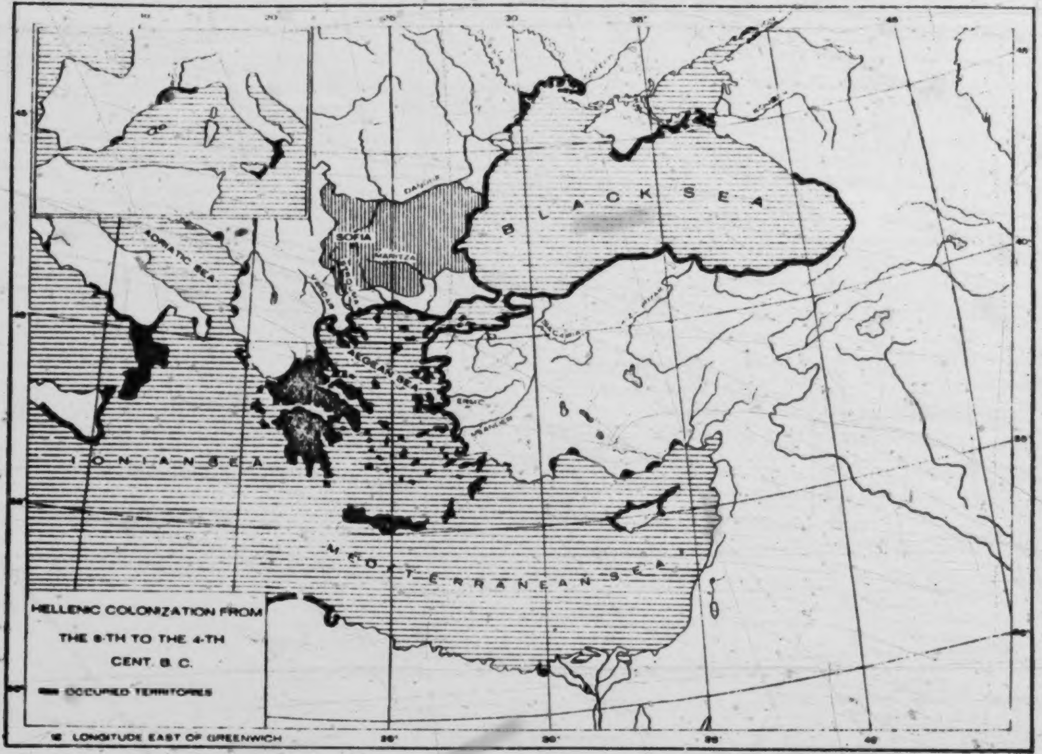
HELLENIC COLONIZATION FROM
THE 8-TH TO THE 4-TH
CENT. B. C.
OCCUPIED TERRITORIES
LONGITUDE EAST OF GREENWICH
BLACK SEA
IONIAN SEA
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
AEGEAN SEA
ADRIATIC SEA
SOFIA
MARITZA
DANUBE
STRUMA
VARDAR

Fig. 8.

000

the vital resources of the neighbouring agricultural and cattle-raising Thracians and Scythians. They paid low prices for the products of their hard labour and offered their „industrial“ goods in exchange. The Greeks monopolized both the sea coast trade and the sea transport. The densely populated Hellas satisfied her food supply needs by purchases from the Pontic (Black Sea) regions at the very early period. It is belived that half of the purchases of Attica, amounting to 800,000 medimnes or 42.000 hectolitres in the 4th century B. C., came from the Pontic. The native production of the Greeks was insufficient because of the sterility of the soil and because their agricultural methods, even at that time, were far more primitive than the methods of the „barbarians“. The low priced grain supply from the Pontic districts, however, revolutionized the economic structure of the country. The crash in the wheat prices caused the cessation of agricultural and food production. The people left the land in order to settle in the cities and devoted themselves to the production of high-priced comodities, like wine, olive oil etc., which required less labour. Big city centres, city-states like the Italian of the Middles Ages, were established. These city-states fought among each other bitterly. This is the significant part that wheat, which came from our lands, played in Ancient Hellas. The Hellens clung fast to the sea and, wherever it was possible, they occupied strips of land along the coast because they did not meet any resistance on the part of the good natured and peaceful local inhabitants. The Greeks have always been, as they are also to-day, sea-faring people, who have no inclination to penetrate deep into the interrior of the hinterland of the sea coast. Contrary to their Roman successors, they kept the sea routes jealously and fought bitterly against any force that would interfere with them. This is the reason and significance of their wars with the Persians (469-465) and of their struggles to dominate the exit and the key of the Black Sea — Byzantium (474-472). After their Persian wars, the Greek cities of Asia Minor were unable to maintain the past glory and influence, but the Greek colonies along the Black Sea coast, like Odessus (Varna), Tomi (Constanza), Dionisopolis (Balchik), Apolonia (Sozopol) and others, retained their commercial significance and continued to thrive.

The Hellens dominated, as purely Hellenic lands, European Hellas and the islands of the Archipelago. In the other

000 parts of the peninsula and the Mediterranean region, they kept their own by numerous narrow strips of land along the sea coast or by isolated colonies and settlements, mainly around the mouths of the rivers or the exits of the valleys. They left the backland to the local population of Thracians, Illyrians, Macedonians, Slavs etc. Hellenic civilization was unable to supercede the firmly established older culture of these ancient peoples, which was connected with their hard life and labour on the land. This explains why the Hellens did nothing for the land routes and for the economic life of the local „barbarian“ peoples. They only drained their resources and gave nothing of value and significance in exchange. After the fall of Hellas and the advent of the Romans to the Balkan Peninsula, a good general imperial administration and a large network of roads were established both here and in Hellas. This road network left traces all over „Roman“ Europe up to the 18th century. With us the traces of these roads continued to be conspicuous until a much later time, because, in many sections, the old Turkish roads followed the old Roman roads. The Roman influence has been larger in our lands than the Hellenic influence, which was almost nil. In Bulgaria were established Roman cities like Nikopolis ad Istrum (Nikup), Marcianopolis (Devna), Oescus (Ghighen), Melta (Lovetch), Ratiaria (Archar) etc.

In the long run, the Greeks were gradually pushed away from the sea coasts, because the local population wanted to get rid of these „suckers“ colonizers. But Bulgaria, being under Turkish subjection, was unable to clear her coasts from this invasion. Along with the Greek coastal settlements or colonies, we find, simultaneously, a back land population which was unfriendly to them, except in most recent times and at such places, where it was driven by force to leave its homeland. This violence over the local inhabitants continues until the present day. Considerable Slav population is forced out of the coastal regions to the interior of neighbouring countries. But the Greeks could have a claim on the coastal strips of land of the Balkan rivers Vardar, Struma, Maritsa and Mesta, as much as they might be given the right to claim, for example, Alicante in Spain, Marseilles in France, Messina in Italiy, or Rostov on the Don in the USSR.

In his celebrated and authoritative book¹) Professor A. Philippsohn says: „The Greeks are the sole masters only of European Greece. In Macedonia, Thrace and Western Asia Minor they hold just a narrow strip of land along the sea coast since old times. Behind this strip of land, the Western Balkan Peninsula was inhabited in ancient times by Illyrians and the Eastern part of it — by Thracians. In between, near the Greeks, were the Macedonians... The Byzantine Empire carried a desperate struggle for ten centuries to defend Hellenism against the enemy invader from the North, from the West in general and from the Francs in particular. The Franks were repulsed, but to the enemies of the North and East the Greeks lost all the Hellenized lands. Hellenism was limited to its proper confines around the Aegean Sea, where it succeeded in assimilating the infiltrated foreign elements... The biggest part of the Balkan-Peninsula, however, was occupied in the North by the Slavs". These words are illustrated in the map above, borrowed from the book of professor Philippsohn. (Fig. 9).

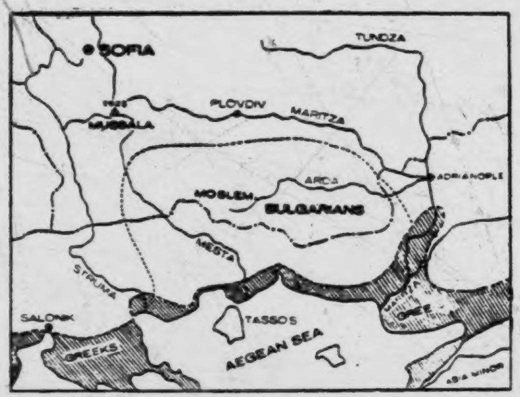

Fig. 9. Map by Ptof. A. Philippsohn in his Book of the Mediterranean Region.

Let us quote, among others, the opinion of the American missionary in Constantinople, Dr. Hamlin,²) who, accom-

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¹) A. Philippsohn, Das Mittelmeer Gebiet, Leipzig, 1914; 3rd edition, p. 187—189. This work is dedicated to the celebrated geographer Ferdinand von Richthoffen.

²) Dr Cyrus Hamlin, the Founder of Robert College in Constantinople; s. Footnote p. 29.

000 panied by a representative of the American-Turkish Aid Society, undertook a trip during 1857 in South Bulgaria or, as it was called at that time, Roumelia. They passed through Rodosto and then through Andrinople on their way to Plovdiv (Philippople). Hamlin thought than the Bulgarians were found mostly north of the Balkan mountains. He was greatly surprised to discover that half of the inhabifants of Adrianople were Bulgarians. He* said about them: „The spontaneous, [181] modest, kind and respectful behavior of the population can not but attract the attention even of the most casual observer. We were not the object of any ridicule, base curiosity or rough language on the part of either young or old people. We can not say, however, the same about the Greek and Turkish villages". The Bulgarians said to Hamlin: „We have no literature, no schools and, we might even say, we have no language".

Human culture is founded always on the labour spent for the cultivation of land. During the Hellenic civilization, those who worked the land were called barbarians and, instead of benefiting by it, they were robbed by this civilization. Present Balkan culture, however, suffers from the manifestation of actual barbarism, by blocking the outlets to friendly seas for those who work and labour on the land.

162 **33. The Population of Thrace.** The bigger part of the population of Thrace is Bulgarian. Let us use a few important data:

1. The Bulgarian census of 1919 was carried under very unfavòurable conditions. Many Bulgarian Moslems were shown under the clasification of Turks and the Bulgarian population had been reduced, after the Turks had exterminated it, during the so called famous „republic of Giumurdjina".

Bulgarian Christians	87.941	
Bulgarian Moslems	17.369	
Bulgarians total	105,310	47.0 %
Turks	79.539	35.4 %
Greeks	28.647	12.75%
Others	10.922	4.85%
Total	224.418	

* [Dr. Cyrus Hamlin, American missionary in Constantinople, who visited South Bulgaria in 1857--Analyst]

[Western Thrace]

2. The census made by General Charpy, Governor general of Western Thrace from 1918 until 1920, respectively by the Allied occupational forces in Western Thrace, in March 1920. This census was incomplete, because it was made when the Bulgarians were fleeing from their native places and the Greeks were bringing in their „refugees“ instead. 162

Bulgarian Christians		**69.154**
Bulgarian Moslems		**11.739**
Bulgarians total		**80.839**
Turks		**73.220**
Greeks		**51.706**
Others		**6.803**
	Total	**212.622**

In spite of the unfriendly attitude and behaviour of the French chief in command of the East, Franchêt d'Eperey, towards anything that was Bulgarian, the sympathies were still with the Bulgarians. This is what Paul Roussel, the Allied Financial Director of the region, brought to the knowledge of Franchêt d'Eperey: „Two peoples contend the future of this country, if we leave aside the Turks, who are to return to the land of their origin... There is nothing left, of what we admire of their past, in the present-day Greeks... There is no doubt that the future belongs to this youthful and sturdy people, the Bulgarians, who are gifted with the rare capacity for work, honesty and saving.“ 563

34. The Spirit of the Bulgarian population and the Terror Exercised over it. The terror exercised over the Bulgarian population in Western Thrace after the Balkan War, during 1913 and 1914, was in no way less cruel than the one applied in Macedonia. Thousands of schemes were engineered to expel this population from its native lands. Numerous documents show us how bold and enlightened the spirit of this population was in the time of the Turkish domination, however. The Bulgarian peasant population around the city of Drama wanted to have their own Bulgarian bishop and they sent away the Greek bishop of Drama in 1872. The Greek bishop in Drama reported to the Patriarchate;

[Western Thrace]

563 „The Bulgarians are simply wild in the region north of Drama... In all that region the language of the people is Bulgarian and this helps greatly the plans of the Bulgarians. Whole districts, belonging to the Drama eparchate and some communities, seceded to join the exarchate.[1] But the Lord of truth and justice is more powerful than people, armament, fire and death."

So spoke this pastor and went on to say how he betrayed Bulgarian rebels of the same region to the Turkish authorities: „The soldiers put on fire the house in which the bandits were found and all were going to perish, had they not escaped by the roof of the house... With daggers in their hands and firing at the royal soldiers... they fled to the mountains. Here are the results: in the village of Volak[2] (I do not know how that was allowed) the church services were done formerly in turns, one day in Greek and one day in Slavic, by ours and by schismatics. Immediately after that, I forbade these alternating services and now we officiate only in Greek. Half of the school was in the hands of Bulgarians, but now it is completely in the possession of the Orthodox (the Greeks). But what is most pleasing (says this naive Greek bishop) now is that all of them bow to the Patriarch and so our God is established firmly in the whole district", and ends his letter „and may the Lord, who comforts the meek, comfort and relieve us, Amen". The same Drama bishop writes: „We were greatly surprised and grieved when we learned to-day that in the holy church of your village[2]) the chanter Christo sang from Easter until to-day in Bulgarian, regardless of the fact that the whole village had accepted orthodoxy, in accordance with the sacred and divine instructions and orders of our confession. These things are forbidden and we command you to discontinue from to-day on this confused and arbitrary behaviour of the chanter or otherwise we will punish him severely even with the help of the state authorities. May the Lord's mercy be with you!" Let us quote the contents also of a letter addressed to a village by the Greek vicar in Drama. It is a gem of Greek Church impertinence and characterizes the whole period of church bar-

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[1] The Bulgarian National Church.

[2] Volak, a purely Bulgarian village.

[Western Thrace]

barism. „We warned you in our recent letters, by order of 563 our respected bishop, that you were to employ only the Greek language in the holy church of your village, as this is the language sanctified by the apostles and our holy fathers, and the language in which the holy and grand name of our Saviour should be glorified. Our letters and our recommendations, however, seem to have been disregarded by some of your people, who dare use the Bulgarian language in the church services. We are duty bound to give you strict instructions and to require that you should not allow any more like profanation of the holy service and liturgy. The Bulgarian language is not recognized by the church, on the contrary, it is forbidden and rejected by the Holy Synod and by the Great Christian Church...“ (November 10, 1903).

A country Greek woman teacher wrote to the bishop: „Yesterday I sent the country guard of Pleven1) to fetch the three boys who refused to come by order of their parents. The same negative answer was received from Egri-Déré. I am left with only two girls and am at sea as to what to do. I don't doubt that you at least would send me two comforting words.“ (September 19, 1911.2))

We found it appropriate to draw attention to the above letters and information, which, though coming from only one of the Bulgarian districts (thaf of Drama), would be sufficiently instructive of the methods which all Greek church authorities applied throughout the Bulgarian lands.

35. A Comparison Between Bulgarian and Greek Schools, 1904.

563 871 The noted French writer, Victor Berard,3) who is a friend of the Greeks, reports the following: „It would be sufficient to compare the Bulgarian schools in Macedonia to the other schools there, in order to notice the difference immediately. The Greeks, who

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1) A purely Bulgarian village in the county of Drama.

2) Georgieff & Shishkoff, La Macédoine Orientale du Sud. II. Recherches et documents, 1918; Philippople.

3) Victor Berard, Pro Macedonia, Paris, 1904, p. 40; cf. D. Misheff Die Wahrheit über Makedonien, Bern, 1918, pp. 37-38.

[Western Thrace]

563 have applied our old methods in training the students of their secondary schools in that literature and non-partizan culture,
871 which gave France the „honest“ men of the 18th century, have filled to-day the Greek museum with babblers and politicians, physicians, deputies, ministers and lawyers. The curriculum of the Bulgarian gymnasias (high schools) in Macedonia is entirely different. The Bulgarian high schools give the Macedonians useful knowledge in the letters and sciences. They train them to know the present day world and to take account of actualities. They make them citizens of the 20th century, who are able to take care of themselves and to do justice and service to their own country.

„One single visit to a Bulgarian and to a Greek school will bring out the difference. In the first school the student handles a test tube, in the other he breaks his head over Demosthenes and the fallen warriors of the Marathon battlefield.

563 „The Greeks despise the Macedonian Bulgarian students in the same manner, like our gentlemen „classics“ in our liceums used to despise the modern workers at one time. The Greek considers the Macedonian still as a slave and this awful contempt will continue to embarass the future of the Hellens for a long time.

„The Greeks assume an eternal monopoly on the culture and ideas of the East. They consider themselves the [illegible] fighters for civilization and success and imagine themse[illegible] be the only support of Europe against Asia. They see B[illegible]garia as she was 25 years ago: the competitor of the Cossack and the carrier of ignorance and barbarism. Obsessed by this imaginary right of monopoly, they entertain most delightful hopes... and when friends of theirs (among whom I have the right to consider myself) advise them to take note of Bulgarian culture and of the idea of Macedonia, they should not shrug their shoulders or raise offensive objections. If you talk to an Athenian about Bulgarians (and this I know from personal experience) without applying the contemptuous adjectives of „rough“ and „wild“, he would think that you were either a „Bulgarophile“ or that you were bribed.“

[Western Thrace]

513
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36. Greek Atrocities Committed against the Bulgarians during 1920-1940.

The Bulgarian population began to flee, as soon as the Greek occupation took effect in 1920.[1]) This exodus was justified because of the application of the Greek methods of imprisonment, beating,

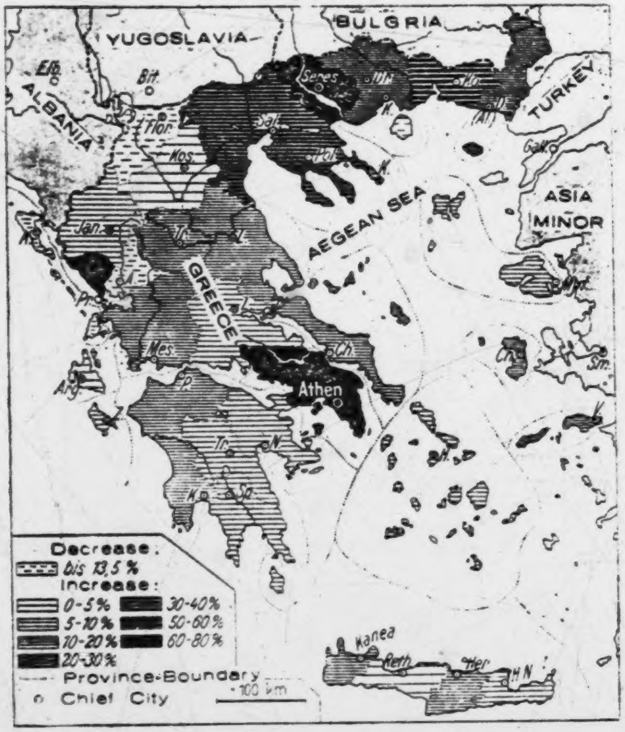
YUGOSLAVIA
BULGRIA
TURKEY
ALBANIA
Seres
Sal.
Pol.
Flor.
Kos.
Bit.
Jan.
Pr.
Mes.
Ch.
Tr.
Arg.
N.
Ko
Sp.
Gal.
Sm.
K.
AEGEAN SEA
ASIA MINOR
GREECE
Athen
Kanea
Reth.
Her.
H.N.
Decrease:
bis 13,5 %
Increase:
0-5%
5-10%
10-20%
20-30%
30-40%
50-60%
60-80%
Province-Boundary
Chief City
100 km

Fig. 10. After the occupation of Western Thrace by Greece in 1920, the Bulgarian population, which constituted the majority of the inhabitants of the District, was subjected to an outrageous persecution, banishment and forced expatriation. The above map, borrowed from E. von Seidlitz'sche Geographie, II. p. 757, shows the artificial increase of the population of Western Thrace during 1920—1928 due to this fatal displacement of population. This displacement, however, did not push forward the economic life of this country. On the contrary the economic situation there became extensive, because the Greeks are generally neither agricultural nor cattle raising people like the Bulgarians who are the basic population of the province. D = Dedeagatch, K = Kavalla, Ko = Gjumurdjina, Dr = Drama, Sal. = Salonica.

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[1]) After the Peace Conference of San Remo, 19-26. IV. 1920.

[Western Thrace]

563 banishment and economic spoliation against the Bulgarians.
167 It brought them misery, sickness and death. This is a long story and space prevents us to tell it even in brief on this occasion (Fig. 10).

Bulgarians were exiled to the islands of Crete, Milos, Citera, Mitilene and Chios and to some parts of the Greek main land. Nearly 25,000 Bulgarians were banished in this manner. Many of them died of hunger and distress — particularly old people and children. Two hundred persons died in the village of Domus-Déré. Those who were lucky to return alive found their villages ruined and pillaged. Colonel Korf and Major Deroover, who were delegates in the mixed Bulgarian-Greek Commission on expatriations, reported: „Those who were sent to exile formed lines, which continued for weeks, during the months of February and March of 1923. The expatriation from each village was effected without delay. The unprepared villagers started on their jorney without any personal effects, abandoning their property and their crops. About 15,000 to 20,000 families were thus exiled to the islands and Thesally. To save themselves from exile many took refuge in Bulgaria... Banished Bulgarians, who managed to survive, were brought back from the islands and from Thesally in the fall of 1923. Their condition was destitute and lamentable. They pleaded that Bulgaria should open her frontiers and accept them on her territory, because they found their homes empty and were dying of hunger and cold.“

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37. Modern Greek Cruelties.

Basil II Vulgaroctonos or the „Slayer of Bulgarians“, in 1014, bored the eyes of 15,000 Bulgarian captives and left, for each group of 100, one single eyed guard to lead them. Greek cruelty towards anything that savours of Bulgarian, has not diminished since that time. Because of the generally milder and more humane attitude of the world of to-day, Greek cruelty should appear to have been softened a bit; but this really is a delusion, because, on the contrary, the Greeks manifest now a days the same inclinations.

The investigation made by a commission of the Carnegie Endowment after the mutual accusations of cruelties after the Balkan War, 1912-1913, has furnished us with an abundant evidence of Greek cruelty, which explains the Bulgarian depopulation of Western Thrace. We find the following in the introduction to the repport of this investigations whose acting Director was Nicolas Murrey Butler: [1])

„The circumstances which attended the Balkan Wars of 1912 and 1913 were of such character as to fix upon them the attention of the civilized world. The conflicting reports as to what actually occured before and during these wars, together with the persistent rumors often supported by specific and detailed statements as to violations of the laws of war by the several combatants, made it important that an impartial and exhaustive examination should be made of this entire episode in contemporary history... It was with this motive and for this purpose that the Division of Intercourse and Education of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace constituted in July, 1913, an International Commission of Inquiry to study the recent Balkan Wars and to visit the actual scenes where fighting has taken place and the territory which has been devasted... [2])

We give the following extract from the repport:

„(p. 103). The Commission regrets that the attitude of the Greek governement toward its work has prevented it from obtaining any official answer to the charges which emerge from this evidence. The broad fact that the whole of this Bulgarian region, for a distance of about one hundred miles, was devasted and nearly (p. 104) every village burned, admits of non denial... No verdict which is based on the evidence collected by the Commission could be more severe than that which Greek soldiers have pronounced upon themselves. It happened that on the eve of the armistice (July 27) the Bulgarians captured the baggage of the Nineteenth Greek infantry regiment at Dobrinishte (Razlog). It included its post-bags...

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[1]) Report of the International Commission to Inquire into the Causes and Conduct of the Balkan Wars; publ. by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Division of Intercourse and Education; publication No 4; Washington D. C., 1914.

[2]) The Presidence of this International Commission was entrusted to Baron d'Estournelles de Constant, Senator of France, who had represented his country at the First and Second Hague Conference of 1899 and 1907; *Members of the Commission: Austria — Dr. Josef Redlich*, Prof. of Public Law, University of Vienna; Germany — Dr. Walter Schückling, Prof. of Law at the University of Marburg; Great Britain — Francis W. Hirst, Esq., Editor of The Economist an Dr. H. N. Brailsford, journalist; Russia — Prof. Paul Milioukoff, Member of the Douma; United States — Dr. Samuel T. Dutton, Prof. in Teachers' College, Columbia University,

727 563 The soldiers' letters reguire no commentary. Some of the writers boast of the cruelties practiced by the Greek army. Others deplore them. The statements in fact (see Appendix C, No 51) are simple, brutal, and direct, and always to the same effect. These soldiers all state that they everywhere burned the Bulgarian villages. Two boast of the massacre of prisoners of war. One remarks that all the girls they met were violated. Most of the letters dwell on the slaughter of incombatants, including women and children. These few extracts, each from a separate letter, may suffice to convey their general terror:

„By order of the King we are setting fire to all the Bulgarian villages because the Bulgarians burned the beautiful town of Serres, Nigrita, and several Greek villages.[1])

„We have shown ourselves far more cruel than the Bulgarians... Here we are burning the villages and killing the Bulgarians, both women and children... We took only a few (prisoners), and these we killed, for such are the orders we have received.., We have to burn the villages — such is the order — slaughter the young people and spare only the old people and the children... What is done to the Bulgarians is indescriptible; also to the Bulgarian peasants. It was a butchery. There is not a Bulgarian town or village but is burned... We massacre all the Bulgarians wo fall into our hands and burn the villages... Of the 1200 prisoners we took at Nigrita, only forty-one remain in the prisons, and everywhere we have been we have not left a single root of this race... We picked out their eyes (five Bulgarian prisoners) while they were stil alive... The Greek army sets fire to all the villages where there are Bulgarians and massacres all it meets. ... God knows where this will end.“

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[1]) Cf. ibid. p. 94: „The cases against the Bulgarians which remains after critical examination of the evidence relating to Dexato, Serres and Demir-Hissar is sufficiently grave. ‚In each case the Bulgarians acted under provocation and in each case the accusation is grossly exagerated, but their reprisals were non the less laxles and unmeasured. It is fair, however, to point out that these three cases, even on the worst view which may be taken by them, are far from supporting the general statements of some Greek writers, that the Bulgarians in their withdrawl from southern Macedonia and western Thrace, followed a general policy of devastation and massacre. They held five considerable Greeco-Turkish towns in this area and many smaller place — Drama, Kavala, Xanthi, Gumurdjina and Dedeagatch. In none of these did the Bulgarians burn and massacre, through some facts of violence occured.“

„These letters relieve us of the task of summing up the evidence. From Kukush to the Bulgarian frontier the Greek army devasted the villages, violated the women, and slaughtered the noncombatant men. The order to carry out reprisals was evidently obeyed. We repeat, however, that these reprisals began before the Bulgarian provocation. A list of Bulgarian villages burned by the Greek army which will be found in Apendix C (No 52) convey some measure of this ruthless devastation. At Serres Bulgarians destroyed 4000 (p. 106) houses in the conflagration which followed the fighting in the streets. The ruin of this considerable town has impressed the imagination of the civilized world. Systematically and in cold blood the Greeks burned one hundred and sixty Bulgarian villages and destroyed at least 16.000 Bulgarian homes. The figures need no commentary.“

A large part of the population fled to Bulgaria. Considerable part of them were butchered or drowned in the sea like Bostandjieff, the Secretary of the Salonica municipality and the Vicar of the Bulgarian Archbishorpric at Salonica, the Archimandrite Eulogius. The latter was a highly educated man, having studied at an eclesiastical high school in Austria-Hungary and then in Paris[1]. — The Archimandrite Eulogius lived his last on June 18/July 1.[1])

A witness described the scene of the murder of Reverend Father Eulogius in the following words:[2])

„We were a number of soldiers on board the steamer Catherine. I happened to stand a little apart. The Greek soldiers ordered our people to go down into the hold. When I found myself alone I was afraid of being thrown out of the ship and held my breath. At this moment the Vicar of our Archibishopric, the Rev. Father Eulogius, was brought up and two Greek soldiers having hastily robbed him transfixed him with their bayonets and threw him into the sea. I saw his long black hair floating for some time on the water, and then everything disappeared.“

Considerable part of the Bulgarian population was butchered or drowned like Bostandjieff or Rev. Father Eulogius.

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[1]) Ibid. p. 189.
[2]) Ibid. p. 191.

or interned on the island of Thrakiri and died there in martyrdom.

The town of Kukush (Kikis) and 30 villages of this country were among the inhabitated localities which were rased to the ground. The three villages of Negovan, Ravna and Bogoroditza in the vicinity of Salonica were also burned.

The fact that the main streets of all Macedonian and Thracian towns are named after Basil II, the Slayer of Bulgarians, shows how little the Greek has advanced in the last quarter of a century. There was a street even in Salonica, which was named after King Constantine Voulgaroctonos (Slayer of Bulgarians), who ordered the butchery of Bulgarians in 1914 and the burning of their villages.

38. The Greek „Voulgarophaghi“, 1913.

We read in the report of the Carnegie Investigation Commission the following[1]:

„The Greek army went into the war, its mind inflamed with anger and contempt. A gaudily colored print, which we saw in the streets of Salonica and Pireaus, eagerly bought by the Greek soldiers returning to their homes, reveals the depth of the brutality to which this race hatred had sunk them. It shows a Greek evzone (highlander) holding a living Bulgarian soldier with both hands, while he gnaws the face of his victim with his teeth, like some beast of prey. It is entitled the Bulgarophagos (Bulgar-Eater), and is adorned with the following verses:

„The sea of fire which boils in my brest
And calls for vengeance with the savage waves of my soul,
Will be quenched when the monsters of Sofia are still,
And the life blood extinguishes my hate.

„Another popular battle picture shows a Greek soldier gouging out the eyes of a living Bulgarian. A third shows as an episode of a battle scene the exploit of the Bulgar eater.“

„As an evidence of the feeling which animated the Greek army these things have their importance. They mean, in plain words, that Greek soldiers wished to believe that they and their comrades perpetrated bestial crueltics. A print seller who issued such pictures in a western country would be held guilty of a gross libel on its army.* (Fig. 11). 727 563

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[1] Ibid. p. 95-96.

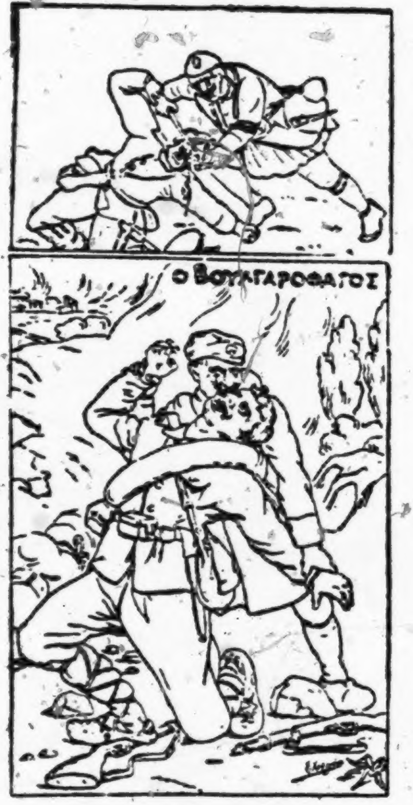

Fig. 11. This picture is borowed from the Report of the International Commission (Carnegie Endowment) pp. 96-98 and shows the Greek „Bulgarophaghi" or „Eaters of Bulgarians", as they themselves have given the picture. Bulgarian villages in flames are seen in the background. (1913).

But let us stop at that. The records of the injustices and cruelties, committed for ages against the Bulgarians, are enormous and voluminous.. So that we should not think of Bulgaria, like many a casual sentimentalist do, as only the land of the sweet scent of roses. Bulgaria is the land of great trials and tribulations which need be known to anyone who has 000

000 the desire to appreciate this small and suffering country and to develop a respect for her, which she certainly deserves.

39. Bulgaria is the Land of Peace and Labour.

The present state of Bulgaria's development is not due to the wealth of any natural resources, as this is the case with other countries more fortunate than she in that respect. She owes her advancement to the hard labour of her population. Hardly any traveller has crossed over her territory and failed to observe sympathetically the distinguishing traits of Bulgaria. Here is how Cyprien Robert, describes the Bulgarians: 1)

181 „The martial abilities, their wealth and commercial experience made the Bulgarian people so dreadful in the beginning of the Middle Ages; to-day, however, the Bulgarian nation is the least prone and given to luxury as well as the most peace loving among European nations. All who know the present day Bulgarian praise him for his peace virtues. The Bulgarian is ready to render you a favor, he is industrious and has the peculiar ability to act with caution. But once, having made up his mind he goes on to do things with an amazing perseverence supported by an athletic force, which enables him to resist the greatest danger without boasting and with composure. Though the most oppressed of all the other people on the peninsula, the Bulgarians have not succumbed to humiliation and distress. As in all times, the look of the Bulgarian to-day is proud, his robust stature is high and handsome. His honesty is above and beyond reproach. You could safely entrust him with any amount of money and you may be sure that it would be delivered to its destination. People blame him that he trembles at the sight of the Turks. The Bulgarian does not tremble, but when he realizes that all resistance is futile, as a reasonable person, he knows how to submit".

186 Another traveller at the time of the Bulgarian insurrection of 1877, James Baker, 2) writes the following: „... A peculiar trait of the history of Bulgaria was the great current of national feeling, which obsessed and continues to dominate

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1) Cyprien Robert, op. cit. p. 240, a. al.

2) J. Baker, Die Türken in Europa; autoris. deutsche Ausgabe. 2-e Auflage. Stuttgart. 1879. p. 24.

the consciousness of this people. We do not hear of Bulgarian uprisals against their sovereigns, on the contrary, they always appear as a united nation fighting for its independence. This force of united behavior and of national consciousness makes a remarkable impression on any traveller, who visits the Bulgarians to-day. Each of them would come forward, willingly and in earnest, to offer himself as a sacrifice to the welfare of the nation. This is an attitude fraught with great potentialities and possibilities, provided it is guided properly". 186

Henry C. Barkley,¹) a British civil engineer, was in Turkish time in charge of the construction of the railroad Tcherna Voda—Constanza (ca 1860) and had an ample opportunity to observe Bulgarians, Turks, Greeks and others at work. He writes: „Amongst the natives proper, far the best and most intelligent workmen were the Bulgars, and with proper education and good example they were capable of doing anything. Unfortunately, at present the only education for the Bulgar is found in the offices and shops of the Levantine merchants in Constantinople and other large towns, where commercial morality is so corrupt that they have no option but to turn out rogues... There are no schools, except those attached to the Greek church, where, I believe, such folly as teaching honesty is unthought of. For this reason the better people are to be avoided as much as possible, but there will be found a great deal of sterling good among the village peasants that only require development. They are steady, quiet, hardworking set of people, patient and unresisting under the Turkish yoke, but at the same time not cringling or servile like their brother-Christians, the Greeks and Armenians. And I have no doubt that were the Turks banished out of Bulgaria, the Bulgars would soon convert into one of the finest and most prosperous countries in Eastern Europe. As much as possible we employed these men on the line, and after years some of them became fitters, cleaners, locomotive drivers, and in fact filled all the places of skilled workmen and it is wonderful to think how they excelled, when one bears in mind how few had been their advantages. 181

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¹) Henry C. Barkley, civil engineer, Between the Danube and the Black Sea or five years in Bulgaria, London, 1876, pp. 174—176.

000 „We had large gangs of Turks but they are never really good workmen, owing to their utter inability to stick long to one thing. As the poaching loafer of a country village often becomes quite a hero in such an emergency as a fire or an inundation, so is the Turk good at a pinch, but for steady continuous work give me the Bulgar. Rare indeed was it to find a Greek or Armenian on the line with a pick in his hand, and never if the foreman were worth his salt. The Greek may just earn his bread as servant or office-boy, or by keeping a drinking shop, but never by hard, steady labour...“

175 **40. A Synopsis of the History of Bulgaria (Appendixes I, A-E).**[1] Many history books attribute greater significance to the martial exploits of the Bulgarian kings, rather than to their civilizing activity. This fact has in a way worked against a proper understanding of the real meaning and spirit of Bulgarian history. The Bulgarian people are bold and forceful in their national consciousness, but their importance goes much further and by the measure of this significance they should be compared to other Balkan peoples. We observe a sequence in the development of Bulgarian history, which is not at all accidental. A bold and united tribe invaded the Balkan Peninsula (679). Its military life was well organized. Taking advantage of the division and instability of the fluid Slavic tribes, who had invaded the peninsula before them, they set to win them to the acceptance of the idea of a uniformed and powerful state and to remove the foreign Byzantine and Greek element from the peninsula, in order to turn it into an attractive and satisfactory living space for them. Asparuch (645—702) is the conqueror and founder of this state. Krum (802 — 814) is the legislator who ushered in the second period of assimilation. Boris (866 — 889) is the christener of the people. The introduction of Christianity is the third period of assimilation. In the time of Boris and Simeon (866—927) we have the third element of assimilation,—the writings which are the beginning of Slavic church literature and culture. This factor gave birth to the Bulgarian national church and the Bulgarian nation owes to it its preservation during the most arduous times of its existence

000 later. This sequence in the development of the Bulgarian nation reveals to us the spirit of Bulgarian history. The centuries

[1] [See pp. 105(A)-109(B)--Analyst]

long struggle against Byzantium is not merely a military race 000 and competition. The Bulgarians proved themselves endowed of more vital potentialities, both in their warfare and in their cultural advancement.

Much hatred and blood, however, was wasted on this peninsula. The only way to attain coordinated action among the peninsular people should be by recognising the rights of the Bulgarians, who are the most numerous among them. This has been proved in the past and it will be the sign of the future.

Bulgaria is not simply a land of roses, as she is presented to us by casual observers. Bulgaria is the land of great suffering and hard labour. We will have a real respect and sympathy for her hardships and her hard toil, if we take the trouble to understand and know her in the proper light and manner.

II. A Glance at the Present.

41. What Distinguishes Present Day Bulgaria. The title of this book raises the question, what are the other features that distinguish Bulgaria at present, if she is not only a country of roses. We have answered this question to a large extent in our study so far. The reader will remember that besides being the land of roses, Bulgaria was the cradle of Slav literature and civilization. Her tempestuous history manifested a remarkable sequence in that she became the main cause for the dissolution of the Byzantine Empire, due to ceaseless wars she waged against the peoples who were foreign to that part of the European continent. Bulgaria is the country of industrious people, who are attached to the land and work forward to spiritual enlightenment and cultural advancement. The Bulgarian people were the first nation in Europe to organize in an independent and uniform state. They were first to accept Christianity and as a symbol of their aspiration for independence they founded their own national church manned and managed by their own folk. Such and many others are the features that justify our title of the book. But one may say that present conditions in the world

000 require something more from Bulgaria. Just as Greece can not rely on the past glory of ancient Hellas, so Bulgaria will have to make a showing of her present day accomplishments in spiritual and material culture. The consideration of this extensive subject does not lend itself to the limited space of our treatise and per force our study will appear incomplete and concise.

131 42. **Some Geography.** May we remind the reader again of the peculiar position which Bulgaria occupies in the Balkan Peninsula. This fact, of itself, is explanatory of much that pertains to the subject. Most of the territorial waters of Bulgaria flow to the Aegean Sea (43%), the rest of the water supply empties in the Black Sea (15%), and in the Danube (42%). Bulgaria belongs to the Aegean part of the peninsula and is separated from the Aegean Sea by an artifical narrow strip of coast land. A large section of Bulgarian territory, the region of the Rhodope mountains, slopes towards this sea. Its Bulgarian population there is subjected to starvation because of the frequent and sudden periodical obstructions interfering with this natural outlet to the free sea. This Bulgarian slice of land changed hands four times since 1878 (Fig. 6).[1] The frontage of Bulgaria towards the south sea is so outrageously blocked, that it constitutes the main bone of contention and trouble for the peace in the Balkans.

The Western part of Bulgaria, including her capital, is the geographical focus of the peninsula and the main dividing line of its road communications (Fig. 1, 2 and 3).[2]

Unfortunately, Bulgaria is the crossroad to the neighbouring continents, Asia and Africa. This fact itself has had much to do with the formation of Bulgarian character, it has determined Bulgaria's history. Recent historical events of the First and Second World Wars are a good evidence of this fact. The invading Barbarians and later the Crusaders passed over the roads through Bulgaria: Bulgaria is the bridgeland between the Danube and the Aegean Sea. She is squeezed between these two great water routes and is helpless in overcoming the enormous pressure of communications from the northern and southern part of eastern Europe. This is due to two main reasons: first, because of lack of bridges over the Danube (Fig. 3),[3] this

[1] [See cat 116, p 40--Analyst]

[2] [See cat 116, pp 9, 10, 12--Analyst]

[3] [See cat. 116, p 12--Analyst]

most important river in Europe and second, because of the 131
policy of the Great Powers which blocked the routes of this large hinterland of the Aegean Sea to its sea ports.

All who seek to understand the position of Bulgaria 133
should remember that from the central point of the peninsula,

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131

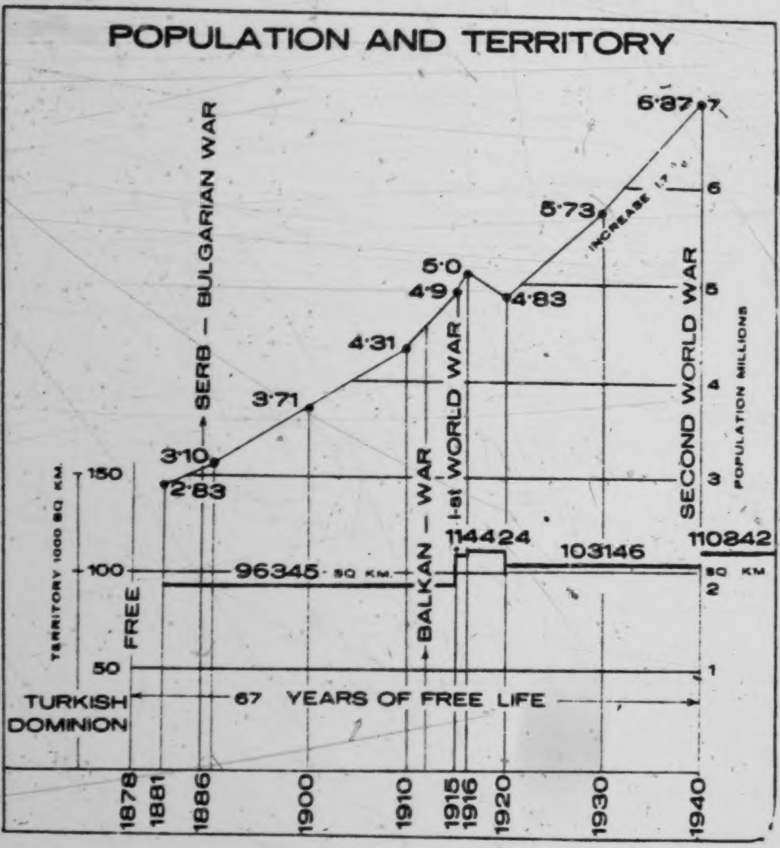

Fig. 12.

around the highest mountain peak of Moussala 2925 m. = 9597 feet), spring the main Balkan rivers flowing in all directions (like Maritsa, Mesta. Strouma, Iskar), and in close proximity — the main affluents of the Vardar and Morava rivers (Fig. 2).[1] 133

The country's diversity of soil and climate afford conditions for an intensive economic life and production. The levels

[1] +[See p. 10 -- Analyst]

133 of elevation given for the territory before 1940 (103.146 sq. km.[1]) are:

500 m. above sea level	64.5 %
500 to 1000 m. above sea level	22.9 %
1000 and more above sea level	12.6 %

The distribution of elevations is favorable for agriculture, cattle-raising and forestry. The well-watered vast planes sloping properly assure an intensive cultivation of valuable food and industrial cultures. The plane of Plovdiv is 4.470 sq. kilometers and has an elevation of 200 meters above sea level, the plane of Stara-Zagora is 1583 sq. km. at an elevation of 160 meters above sea level and the Sofia plateau is 550 m. above sea level with a surface of 1185 sq. km. Then we have the huge and fertile Danube plane which runs along the whole course of the river.

162

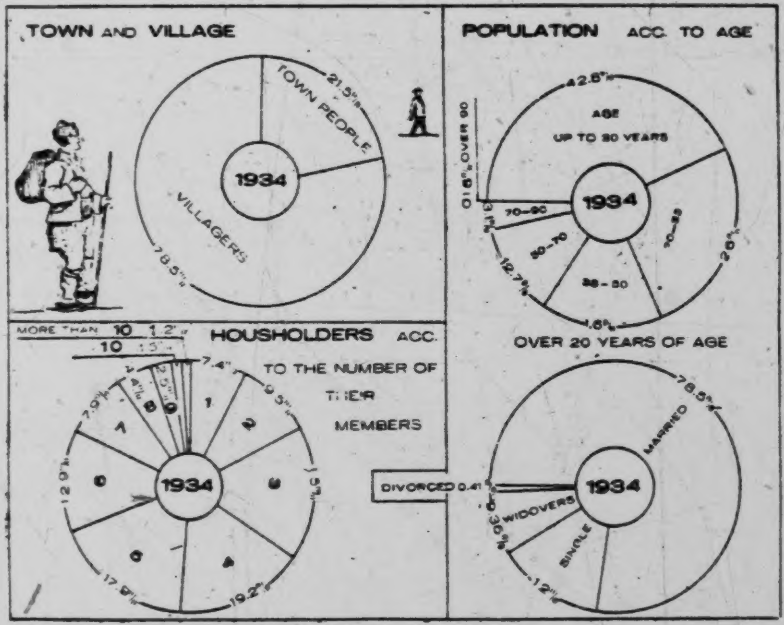

Fig. 13.

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[1] 1 sq. mile = 2.59 sq. km.

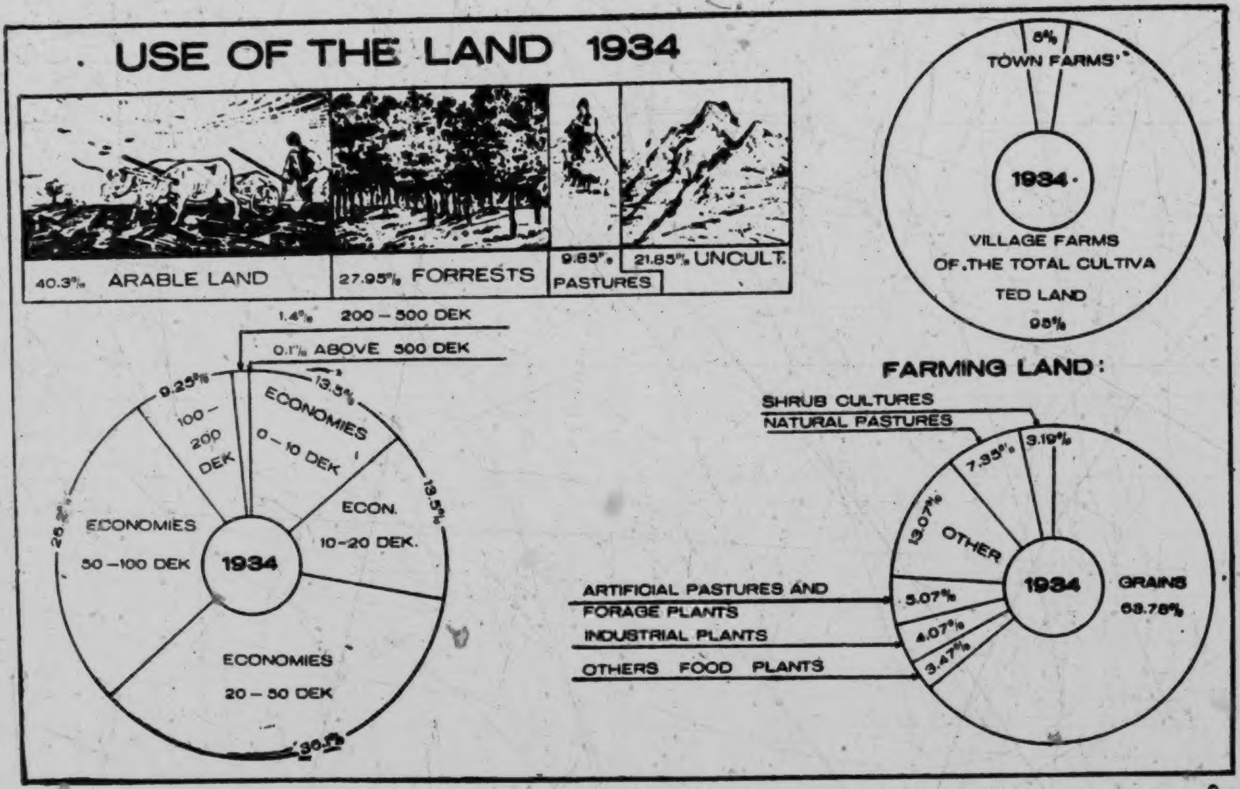

Fig. 14.

8: Bojiloff K-4,5 (no date) 1946 EE1 Bulgaria EE1

131 Bulgaria extends on the parallel 5° 42 20 (average latitude 43° North), on the meridian 2° 58 58 (average longitude 25° East), is nearly as large as Hungary and the State of Ohio, USA, and has to-day a territory of 110.842 sq. km. = 42.800 sq. mi.) and a population (1940) of 6.307.000 inhabitants (estimated 1945 — 6,9 millions).

162

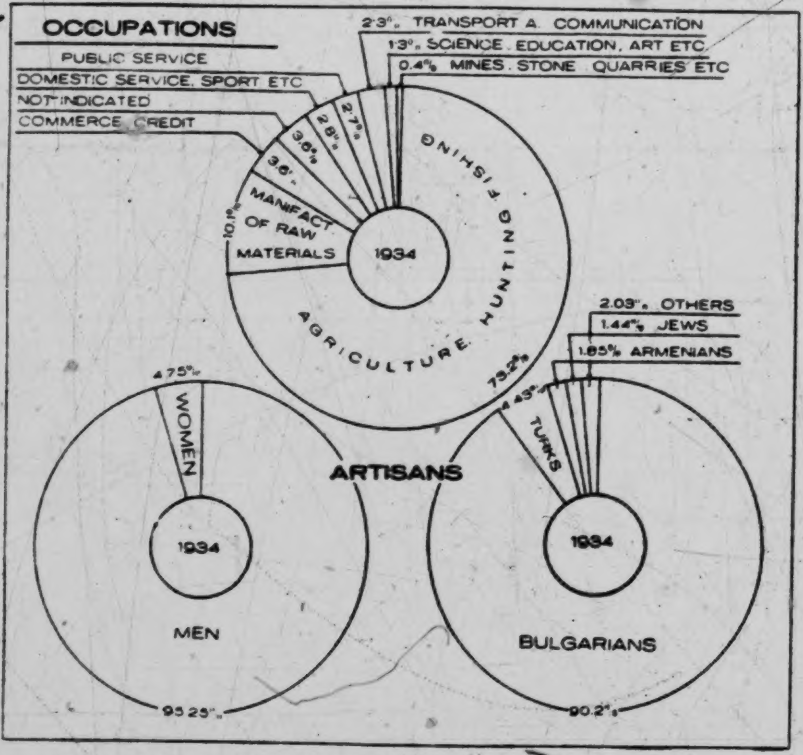

Fig. 15.

43. Bulgaria is a Peasant Country. 78.5% of the inhabitants of Bulgaria live in rural communities and 21.5% live in cities. No essential change has taken place in this structure of Bulgaria's population in recent times:

	1880	*1935*
City population	19.3 %	21,48 %
Village population	80.7 %	79.52 %

These figures show how strongly the people are attached to the cultivation of the land. The background of Bulgarian culture was and still is agricultural labour. 162

44. Bulgaria is a Land of small Ownerships. This is the Background of her Democracy.

Let us show the variety of occupations in Bulgaria. The occupations of 1.284.993 households [1]) in Bulgaria are distributed as follows:

	Households		%
Agriculture	838.899	or	65.2
Manufacture of materials	160.000	„	12.4
Commerce and credit	61.518	„	4.8
Public work and service	38.762	„	3.0
Transport and communications	36.682	„	2.9
Science and education	20.114	„	1.7

The distribution of land property will be shown in the figures below. The total of private properties being 42.810.815 dekars equal to 100%, the distribution is as follows: 423

Husbandries	up to 10 decares [2])	1.3 %
„	from 10 to 20 decares	4.0 %
„	„ 20 „ 30 „	6.6 %
„	„ 30 „ 50 „	18.1 %
„	„ 50 „ 100 „	36.9 %
„	„ 100 „ 150 „	17.0 %
„	„ 150 „ 200 „	7.3 %
„	„ 200 „ 300 „	5.2 %
„	„ 300 „ 500 „	2.0 %
„	„ 500 and more	1.6 %

Since at present Bulgaria could not rely on more guaranteed sources of income for her economy, than those which are connected with her agriculture; along with the efforts laid for the improvement of crafts and industries, the Government takes special care for the agriculture of the country, as the main support of the state and the main background of the democracy of her agrarian population. 241 311

How is land worked in Bulgaria? The private and public land for exploitation being 43.684.381 decares equal to 100%, its distriburion is as follows:

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[1]) This information is based on statistics for 1934, which is the last census year.

[2]) One decare = 0.247 acres. One acre = 4.047 decares.

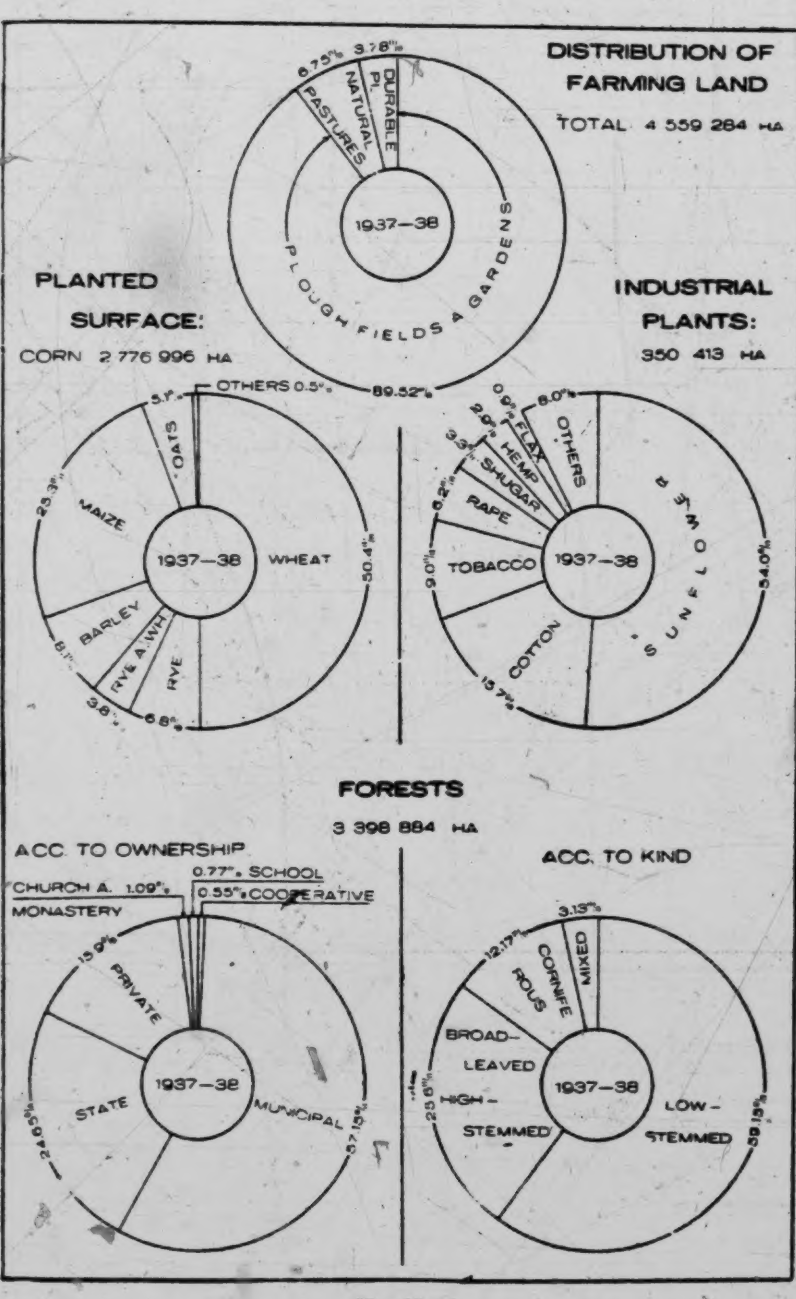
DISTRIBUTION OF FARMING LAND
TOTAL 4 559 284 HA
6.75%
3.78%
PASTURES
NATURAL PL.
DURABLE
1937–38
PLOUGH FIELDS & GARDENS
89.52%
PLANTED SURFACE:
CORN 2 776 996 HA
OTHERS 0.5%
5.1%
OATS
23.3%
MAIZE
1937–38
WHEAT
50.4%
BARLEY
8.1%
RYE A.WH.
3.8%
RYE
6.8%
INDUSTRIAL PLANTS:
350 413 HA
8.0%
0.9%
2.0%
3.3%
6.2%
FLAX
HEMP
SHUGAR
RAPE
OTHERS
TOBACCO
9.0%
1937–38
SUNFLOWERS
54.0%
COTTON
13.7%
FORESTS
3 398 884 HA
ACC. TO OWNERSHIP
CHURCH A. MONASTERY 1.09%
0.77% SCHOOL
0.55% COOPERATIVE
15.9%
PRIVATE
1937–38
STATE
24.65%
MUNICIPAL
57.15%
ACC. TO KIND
3.13%
MIXED
12.17%
CORNIFEROUS
BROAD-LEAVED HIGH-STEMMED
25.6%
1937–38
LOW-STEMMED
59.15%

Fig. 16.

241
311

a. Land for cultivation		**89.10 %**
plough fields	**79.40 %**	
vegetable gardens	**0.45 %**	
vineyards	**2.48 %**	
vine nurseries	**0.008 %**	
orchards	**0.52 %**	
mulberry orchards	**0.01 %**	
rose fields	**0.02 %**	
meadows	**6.02 %**	
b. Land — not cultivated		**10.90 %**
pastures	**1.72 %**	
forests	**8.49 %**	
deserted land	**0.69 %**	
other	**0.06 %**	

45. Agricultural Production. The distribution of the total country's production is given in percentage values, as follows:

241

	1907-1911	*1930-1934*
grain	**62.18 %**	**58.05 %**
industrial plants	**1.80**	**9.68**
beans, peas etc.	**2.26**	**2.25**
potatoes	**0.27**	**0.96**
vegetables	**1.87**	**1.78**
forage plants	**18.58**	**15.89**
vineyards	**10.30**	**8.45**
orchards	**1.03**	**1.40**
rose fields	**0.69**	**—**
mulberry orchards	**0.07**	**0.13**

The above figures show how Bulgarian agriculture turned to more accessible marketing and higher priced products. This situation continues at the present time. The change is evident also from the following figures showing the movement of the country's export after 1911 (vidi Fig. 17 and 18):

ANNUAL AVERAGE

	1907-1911	*1937*	*1938*	*1939*
	amounts in metric tons			
grain	539.404	329.476	172.935	176.635
leaf tobacco	2.051	22.798	33.553	34.761
oleaginous seeds	4.222	64.854	—	43.699
miscellaneous (remnants)	118	45.151	38.961	30.965
fresh vegetables	97	7.359	6.842	8.012
dried vegetables	432	1.192	—	4.364
fresh fruit	1.188	39.890	77.196	72.133
canned fruit	300	7.500	23.296	50.746
wine	8	31	87	19.710

241
439

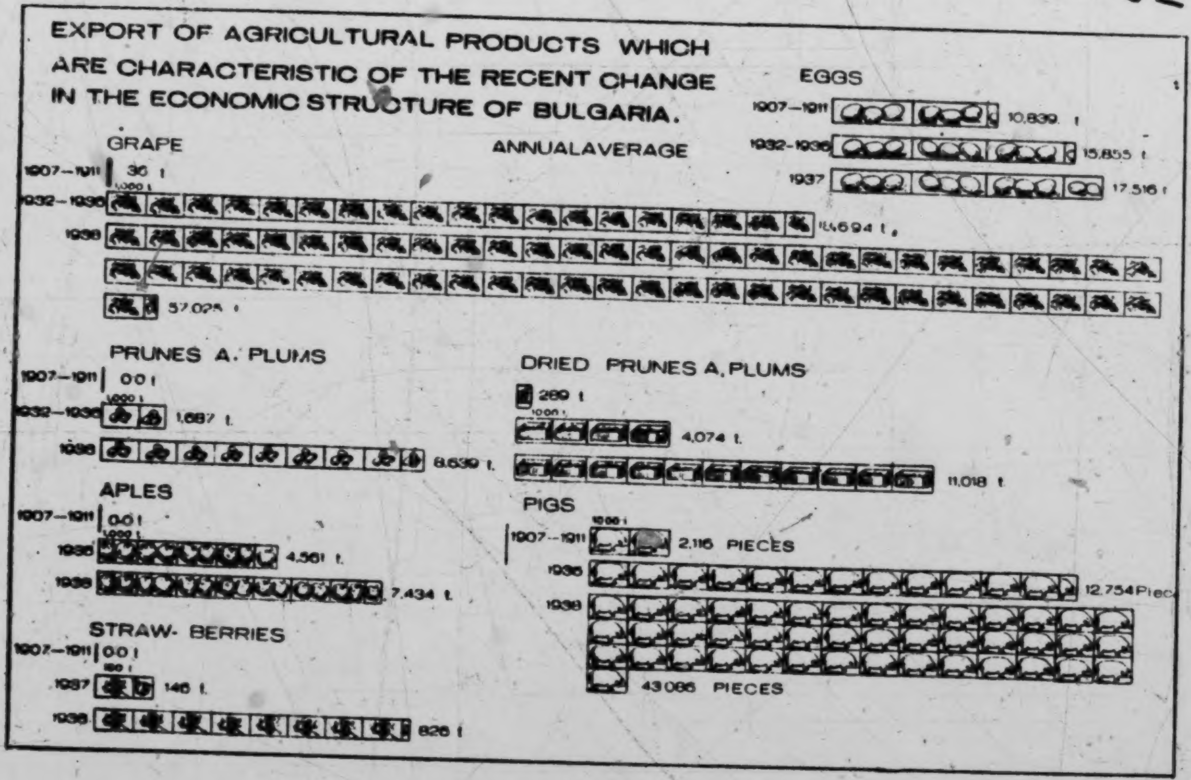

Fig. 17.

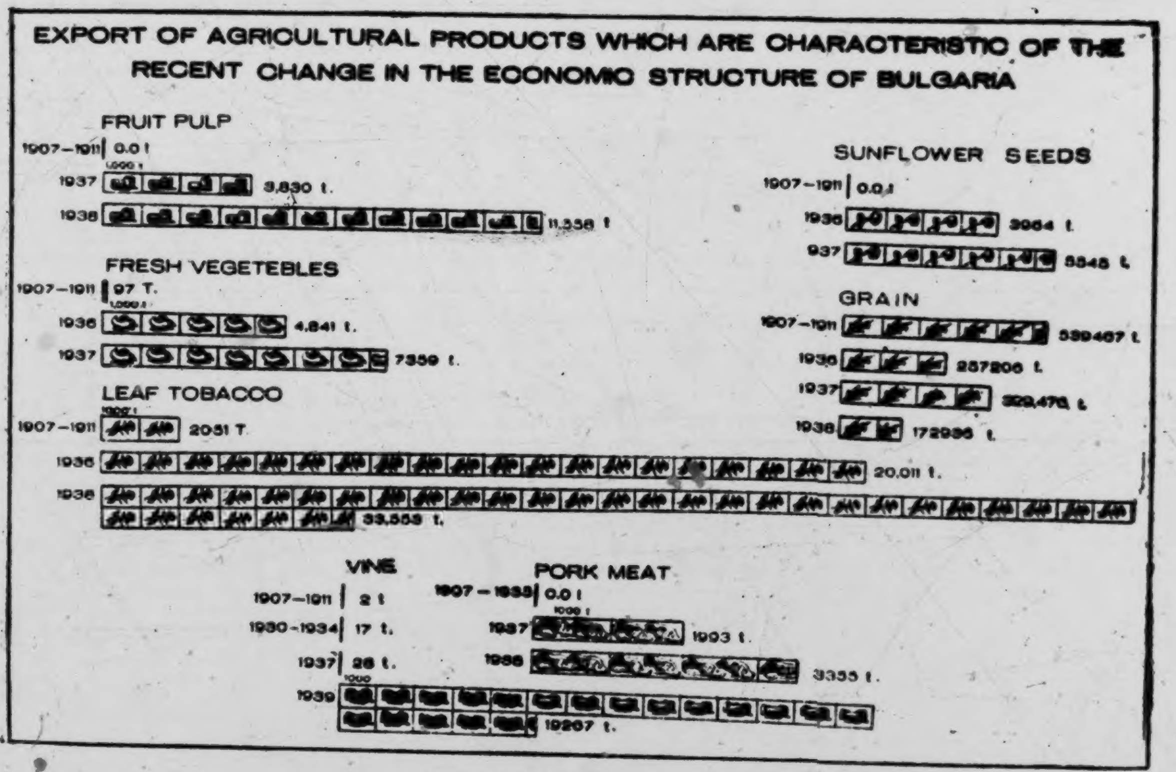

Fig. 18.

241
439

231 The development of cocoon production is remarkable

	in thousands leva
1938	99.391
1939	109.140
1940	135.134

Domestic animals (big)

horses	531.519
mules	36.648
donkeys	180.695
cattle of the bovine genus	1.497.624
black buffaloes	374.977
Total	2.621.463

This represents 2.04 heads per household. The Government endeavors to increase and improve the breed.

Domestic animals (small)

sheep	8.839.492	
goats	913.088	
swine	901.976	
Total	10.654.556	or 8.3 heads per household.

235

Domestic Fowl

hens and rousters	11.813.579	
geese and ganders	303.616	
turkeys	333.860	
ducks	321.685	
Totel	12.772.740	or 9.95 per ordinary household.

439 The increasing fowl and eggs export is an indication of the country's improved poultry farming:

Exported live hens:

	Number	1000 leva
1936	293.204	10.426
1937	798.694	27,602
1938	883.378	29.836

Exported dressed domestic fowl:

	Metr. tons	1000 leva
1930	872	38.265
1932	2.248	84.248
1934	2.934	86.288
1936	4.367	145.129
1937	5.385	168.762

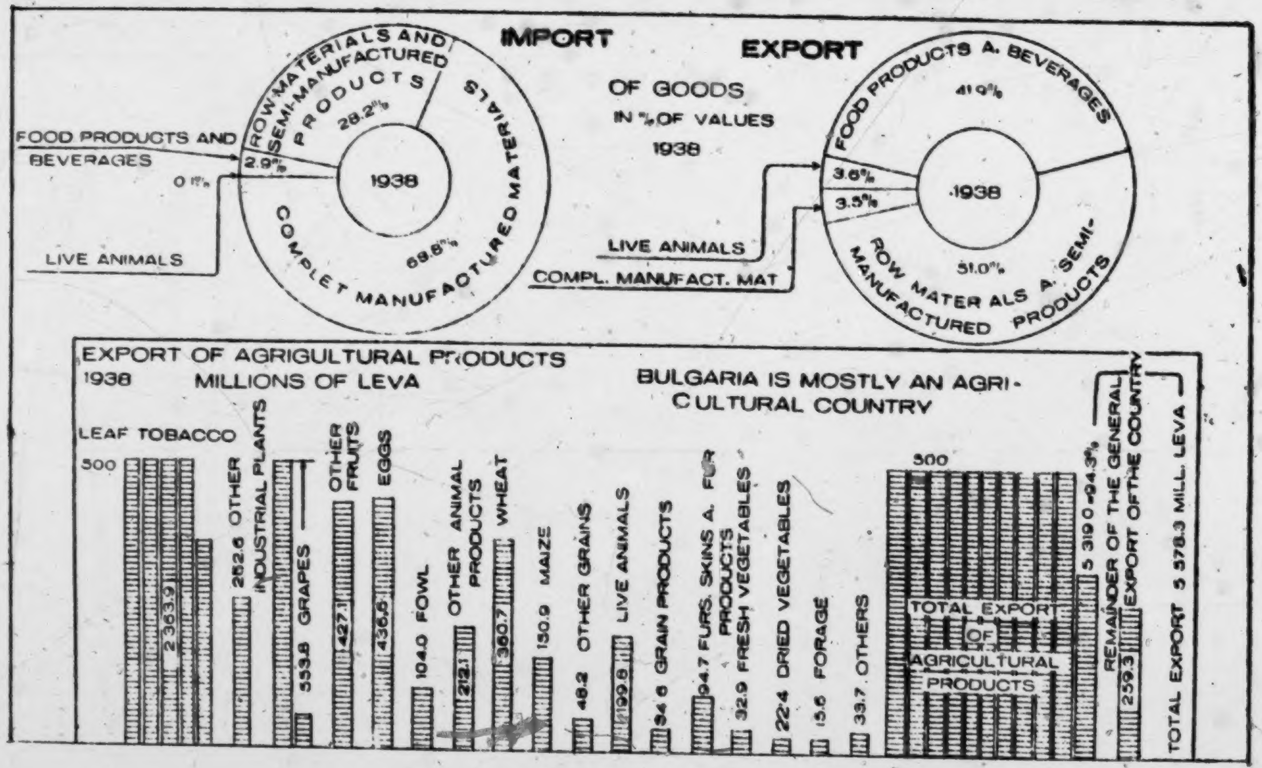

Fig. 19.

8: Bojikoff K-4,5 (no date) 1946 EE1 Bulgaria EE1

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Exported Eggs:

	Metr. tons	1000 leva
1934	14.534	341.388
1935	17.490	465.559
1936	17.516	430.106
1937	15.180	436.623
1940	19.593	807.957

[232]

The country has a veterinary staff of 660 doctors and 175 assistants, 90% of which are government employees.

46. Export of Agricultural Products in 1938.

	1000 leva
grain	525.146
of which 69% wheat and 29% corn;	
grain products	34.587
92% of which are bran;	
industrial plants	2.626.510
of which 90% leaf tobacco, 4.1% oleaginous seeds and 2.4% rose oil;	
forage	15.601
white beans, broad beans, lentils, peas and potatoes	22.435
of which 83% beans;	
vegetables	32.942
of which 83% fresh vegetables;	
fruit	980.867
of which 56.4% grapes, 27.3% canned fruit;	
beverages (131.105.000 leva for 1939 !)	950
live stock	199.554
animal products	752.700
of which 58% eggs, 13.8% dressed fowl;	
hides and skins	94.739
miscellaneous	32.884
Total	5.318.915, which

makes 95.4% of the total (5.578.341.000 leva) export of the country (Fig 19).

47. Foreign Trade Development.

The rapid increase of the country's foreign trade or rather in the value of the export per capita, is as follows (Fig. 20):

Year	Millions of inhabitants	Foreign trade in mill. gold leva	Per capita gold leva	Per capita Index
1880	2.82	42.24	14.9	100
1890	3.23	155.60	48.2	323
1912	4.43	369.52	83.4	560
1939	6.25	595.25	95.3	640

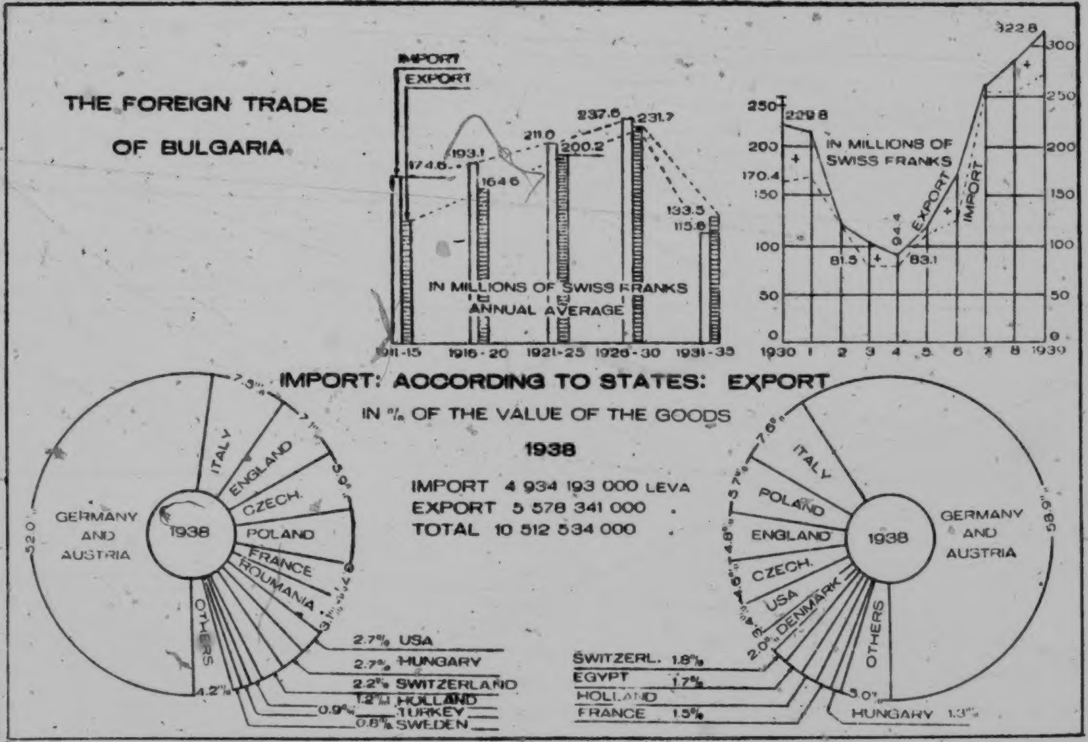

THE FOREIGN TRADE
OF BULGARIA
IMPORT
EXPORT
174.8
193.1
164.6
211.0
200.2
237.6
231.7
133.5
115.6
IN MILLIONS OF SWISS FRANKS
ANNUAL AVERAGE
1911-15
1916-20
1921-25
1926-30
1931-35
229.8
IN MILLIONS OF
SWISS FRANKS
170.4
81.5
94.4
83.1
EXPORT
IMPORT
322.8
250
200
150
100
50
0
300
1930
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
1939
IMPORT: ACCORDING TO STATES: EXPORT
IN % OF THE VALUE OF THE GOODS
1938
IMPORT 4 934 193 000 LEVA
EXPORT 5 578 341 000 .
TOTAL 10 512 534 000 .
GERMANY AND AUSTRIA
52.0
1938
ITALY
7.3%
ENGLAND
CZECH.
5.0%
POLAND
FRANCE
ROUMANIA
OTHERS
4.2%
2.7% USA
2.7% HUNGARY
2.2% SWITZERLAND
1.2% HOLLAND
0.9% TURKEY
0.8% SWEDEN
GERMANY AND AUSTRIA
58.9%
ITALY
7.6%
POLAND
5.7%
ENGLAND
4.8%
CZECH.
4.6%
USA
DENMARK
2.0%
OTHERS
3.0%
SWITZERL. 1.8%
EGYPT 1.7%
HOLLAND
FRANCE 1.5%
HUNGARY 1.3%

Fig. 20.

433 **48. Industry.** Naturally, the industry of Bulgaria is still in its budding state. Its development, however, is not artificial, but is determined by the vital needs of the country. Here are some figures (production and solded goods in millions of leva):

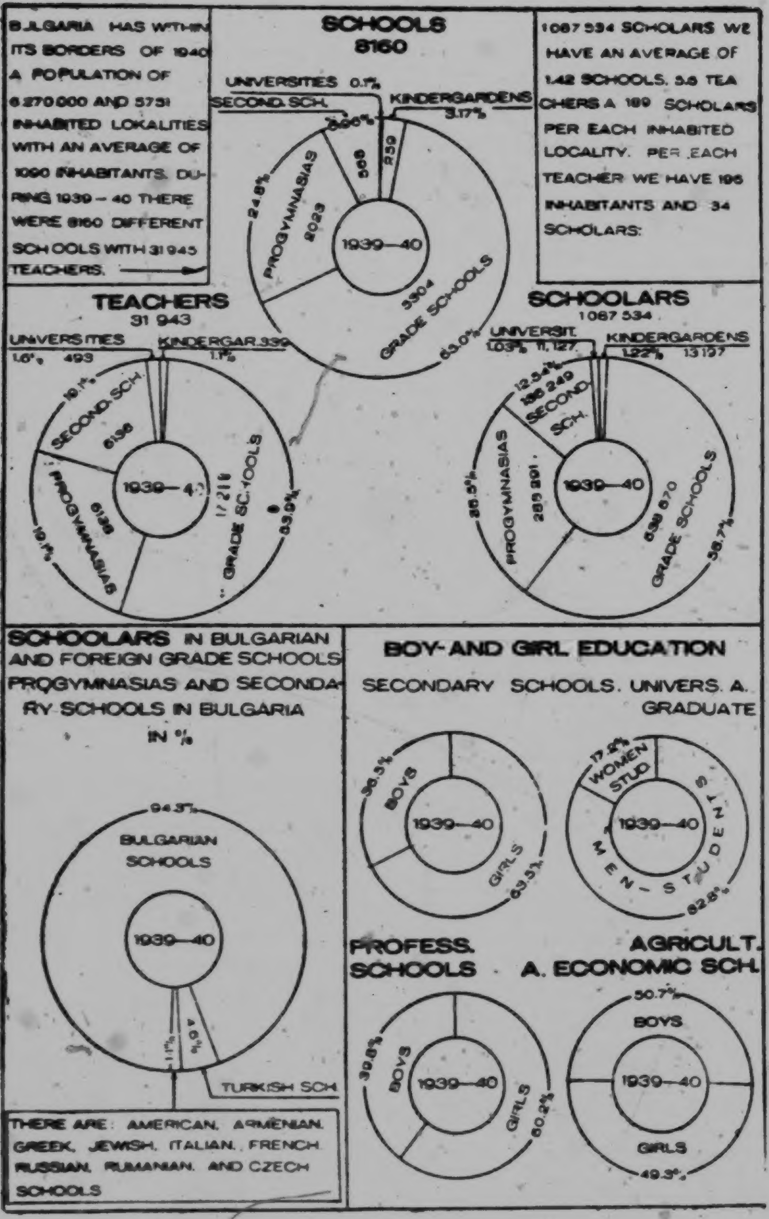
	1937	*1938*	*1939*
Mines:			
Number of men-days	2,165.230	2.564.321	2.805.502
Production	495.107	573.086	648.318
Manifacture of raw materials:			
Number of men-days	21.885.257	22.188.657	21.862.592
Goods sold	10.400.032	11.045.943	11.197.577
of which:			
Ceramics:			
Numer of men-days	1.218.806	1.317.019	1.440.678
Produstion	391.138	414.820	490.986
Textile production:			
Number of men-days	7.664.945	7.612.326	7.993.641
Producfion	2.987.025	2.985.340	3.318.399
Food production:			
Number of men-days	8.936.974	8.689.685	7.754.672
Production	4.439.485	4.878.315	5.127.181
Electricity.			
Number of men-days	353.469	390.423	424.853
Production	405.863	430.259	477.760
Furs, hides, skin industry:			
Number of men-days	313.336	320.908	347.673
Production	351.124	296.552	351.138

Coal mining for 1939:		
State mines	metr. tons	1.731.000
Private mines	„ „	492.000

Distributton of coal:	
For domestic purposes (heating)	35 %
„ industrial „	33 %
„ the railroads	32 %

466 **49. Labour Force of Bulgaria.** The wealth of Bulgaria is the labour of her people. Bulgaria was the first country in Europe to introduce labour conscription. Now it is adopted in almost all European countries. Compulsory labour has much to do with the technical advancement of Bulgaria in recent years:

Year	*Labour conscripts*
1929	16.320
1938	24.309



BULGARIA HAS WITHIN ITS BORDERS OF 1940 A POPULATION OF 6 270 000 AND 5731 INHABITED LOKALITIES WITH AN AVERAGE OF 1090 INHABITANTS. DURING 1939 – 40 THERE WERE 8160 DIFFERENT SCHOOLS WITH 31 945 TEACHERS.

1 087 534 SCHOLARS WE HAVE AN AVERAGE OF 1.42 SCHOOLS, 5.6 TEACHERS A 189 SCHOLARS PER EACH INHABITED LOCALITY. PER EACH TEACHER WE HAVE 196 INHABITANTS AND 34 SCHOLARS:

THERE ARE: AMERICAN, ARMENIAN, GREEK, JEWISH, ITALIAN, FRENCH RUSSIAN, RUMANIAN, AND CZECH SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS
8160
UNIVERSITIES 0.1%
SECOND. SCH.
6.96%
568
KINDERGARDENS
3.17%
259
PROGYMNASIAS
2023
24.8%
1939—40
5304
GRADE SCHOOLS
63.0%
TEACHERS
31 943
UNIVERSITIES
1.6% 493
KINDERGAR. 339
1.1%
19.1%
SECOND. SCH.
6196
PROGYMNASIAS
6136
19.1%
1939—40
17 218
GRADE SCHOOLS
53.9%
SCHOOLARS
1 087 534
UNIVERSIT.
1.03% 11, 127
KINDERGARDENS
1.22% 13 197
12.54%
136 249
SECOND. SCH.
PROGYMNASIAS
288 201
26.5%
1939—40
638 670
GRADE SCHOOLS
58.7%
SCHOOLARS IN BULGARIAN AND FOREIGN GRADE SCHOOLS PROGYMNASIAS AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN BULGARIA IN %
94.3%
BULGARIAN SCHOOLS
1939—40
1.1%
4.6%
TURKISH SCH.
BOY- AND GIRL EDUCATION
SECONDARY SCHOOLS. UNIVERS. A. GRADUATE
36.5%
BOYS
1939—40
GIRLS
63.5%
17.2%
WOMEN STUD.
1939—40
MEN - STUDENTS
82.8%
PROFESS. SCHOOLS
39.8%
BOYS
1939—40
GIRLS
60.2%
AGRICULT. A. ECONOMIC SCH.
50.7%
BOYS
1939—40
GIRLS
49.3%

Fig. 21.

466 We will take as an example the year 1939. During this year the followind work was accomplished:

ground work for new roads	435.5	km.
stone laying for new roads	249.7	.
extensions and repairs	213.5	.
rectifications or modifications of river beds	13.4	.
retain walls	8.1	.
repair of retain walls	1.4	. .

total number of men-days 1.230.808.

Compulsory labour was responsible for building most of the difficult railroad lines during recent years and especially

871

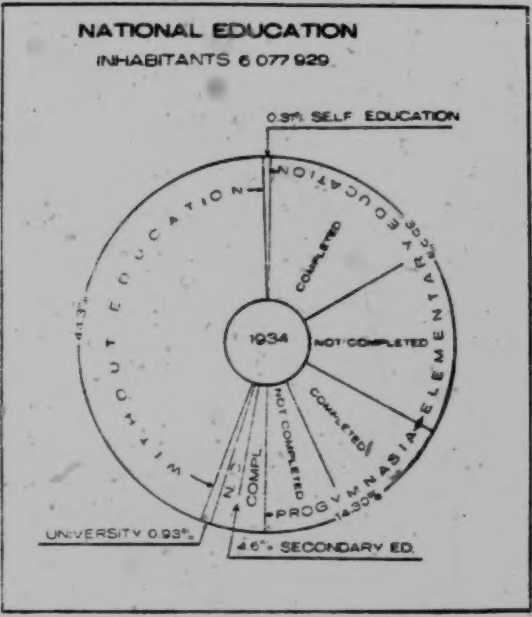


Fig. 22.

466 during the war period. The largest part, for example, of the construction of the railroad running along the Strouma valley in the direction of Western Thrace or Salonica, as well as the railroad line which goes to Macedonia, through difficult ground work and numerous tunnels with artificial equipment, have been accomplished by the labour of draftees.

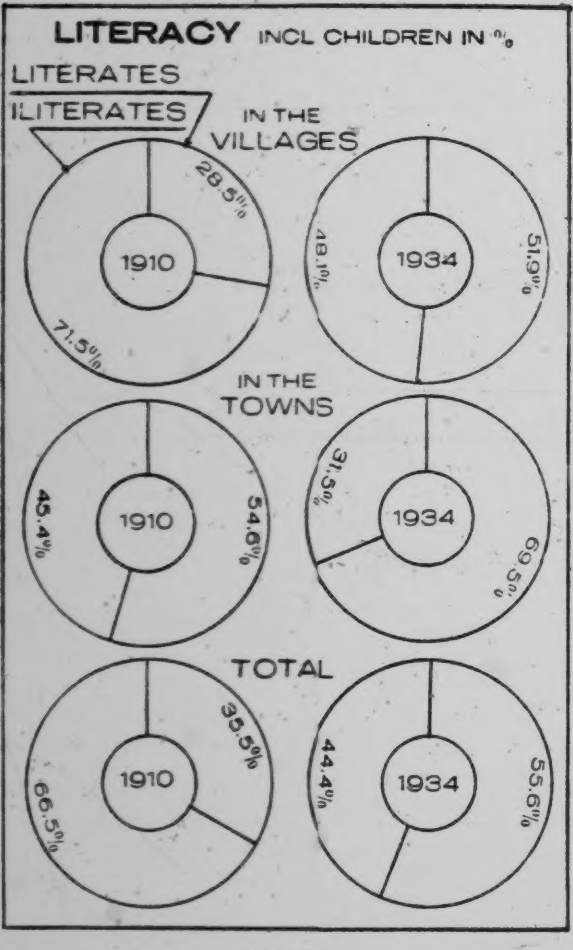


Fig. 23

50. Literacy and Education. If we exclude children under 7 the average percentage would be 68.4 for those who could read and write in Bulgaria. 81 % were city residents and 64.8% peasants. If we include all children, then the average for those who could read and write would be as follows:

	1910 %	1934 %
For the rural population	28.5	51.9
For the city population	54.6	69.5
General	33.5	55.6

217

214

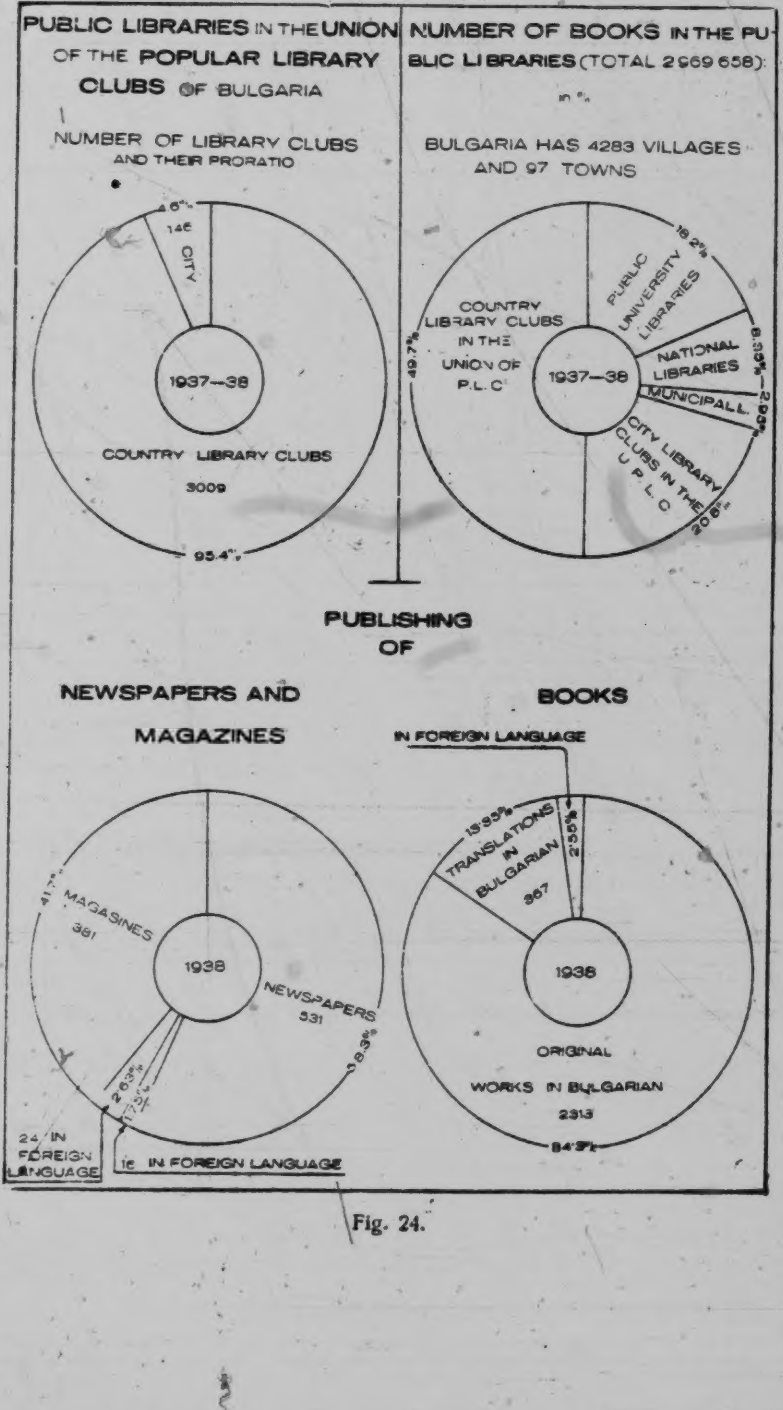


Fig. 24.

Particular features of public instruction in schools are given in the drawings (fig. 21-23). Bulgaria could properly boast of a vast system of instruction dating from the time of Turkish political and Greek spiritual dominion and oppression. This national system of public instruction penetrated down to the lowest strata of the population and helped the Bulgarian people to preserve their existence for centuries past. 871

51. Bulgarian Reading Rooms.

The Bulgarian reading rooms (libraries) are a national institution for education, which were started during the Turkish domination (1393-1878), when the people guarded and developed their enlightenment with their own means. The national reading rooms to-day are organized in a National Union of Reading Rooms, supported by the State. Supplementing the information given in the drawings (Fig. 24) we will give the following data: 217

The books in the reading rooms are distributed, according to their topics and subject matter, in the following manner for 1938:

	Village reading rooms		*City reading rooms*	
	Number of books	%	*Number of books*	%
Art and literature	679.885	47.7	269.898	45.3
General works	210,330	14.8	88.987	14.9
Medecine, agriculture, household economy	124,606	8.8	32,704	5.5
History, geography, biography	114,333	8.0	51,501	8.6
Social science	100.415	7.0	60,154	10.1
Mathematics, natural history	32,677	2.3	20,053	3.3
Religion	32,644	2.3	13,401	2.2
Philosophy	30,613	2.2	19,128	3.2
Others	98,705	6.9	40,998	6.9
Total	1,424,208	100.0	596,824	100.0

We have not included in the above statement the books in the municipal libraries, in the large national libraries, supported by the state, as well as in the libraries of the universities and other learned institutions.

52. Cooperative Activity in Bulgaria

We may safely say that Bulgaria is a country of cooperative organizations. This tendency in the economic life of the country is inherited too from the long submission to Turkish authority (1393-1878), which was devoid of any 474

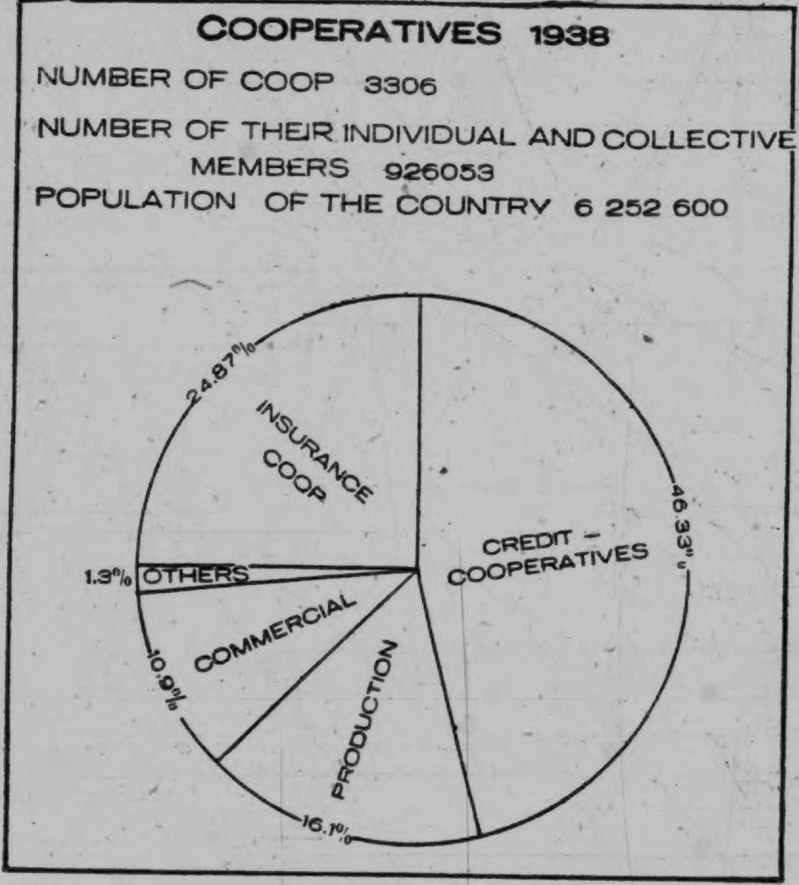


Fig. 25.

feeling of public responsibility. As a reaction to this colourless authoritative attitude developed an inclination towards a wide spread economic organization with public participation, control and responsibility. Here are some general figures regarding Bulgaria's cooperative activity for 1939 (Fig. 25).

Type of cooperatives	*Cooperative societies* *Number*	*Membership*
Productive	735	200,223
Commercial	278	114,713
Credit	2,386	572,983
Insurance	9	151,747
Public works	30	16,929
Union central offices	64	9,534
Total	3,502	966,149

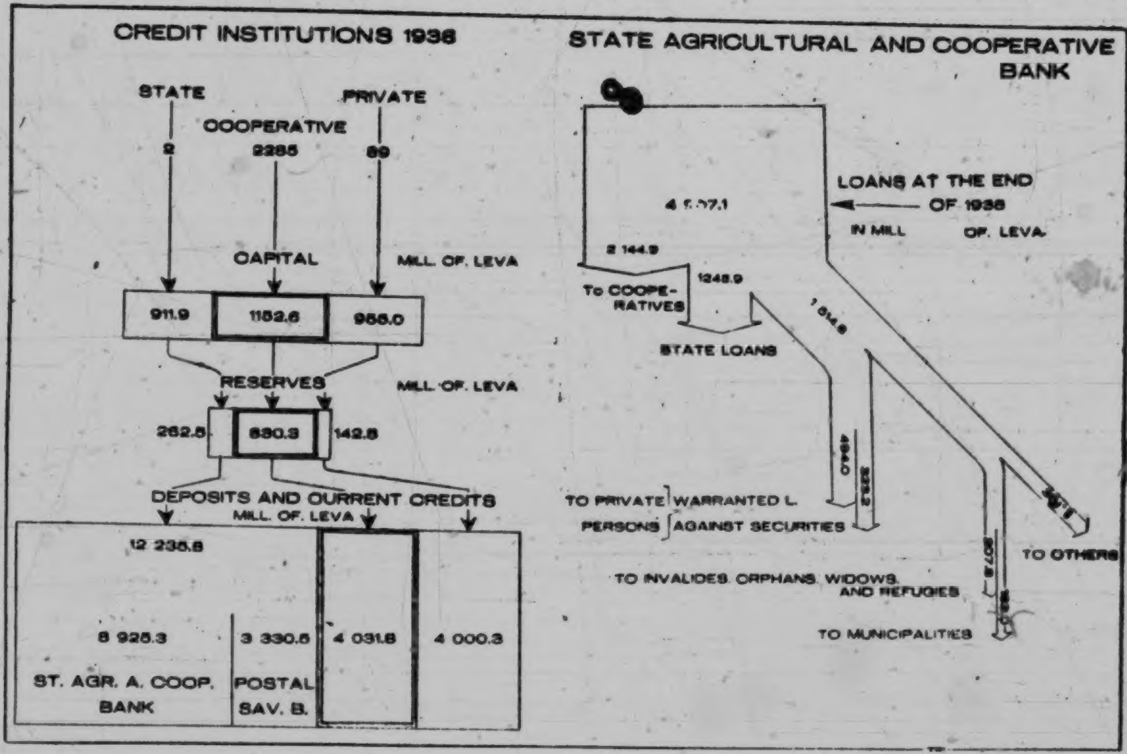

CREDIT INSTITUTIONS 1936
STATE
COOPERATIVE
PRIVATE
2
2285
89
CAPITAL
MILL. OF LEVA
911.9
1152.6
956.0
RESERVES
MILL. OF LEVA
262.5
530.3
142.8
DEPOSITS AND CURRENT CREDITS
MILL. OF LEVA
12 235.8
8 925.3
3 330.5
4 031.8
4 000.3
ST. AGR. A. COOP. BANK
POSTAL SAV. B.
STATE AGRICULTURAL AND COOPERATIVE BANK
LOANS AT THE END OF 1936
IN MILL OF. LEVA
2 144.9
To COOPE-RATIVES
1248.9
STATE LOANS
1 614.6
494.0
328.2
TO PRIVATE PERSONS
WARRANTED L.
AGAINST SECURITIES
TO OTHERS
207.8
TO INVALIDES. ORPHANS. WIDOWS. AND REFUGIES
TO MUNICIPALITIES

Fig. 26.

8: Bojkoff K-4,5 (no date) 1946 EE1 Bulgaria EE1

452
652
474

474 With a population of 6.25 millions we have 275 inhabitants per cooperative society, or 1 out of 6.5 inhabitants is a member of a cooperative society. The members of cooperatives make 15.5% of the total population.

745 **53. Public Insurance.** The income from public insurance for 1938 is 281.4 millions leva. The disbursements for accident, sickness, maternity cases, invalidity, old age and unemployment amount to 155.967.000 leva.

496 **54. Bulgarian Railroads.** (Appendix II)* At the time of her liberation (1878) Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia (South Bulgaria) received from the Ottoman Empire 542 km. = 336 miles of privately owned railroads. With a territory of 103.000 sq. km. = 39.400 sq. miles and a population of 2.8 millions inhabitants at that time, Bulgaria obtained 5.26 km. railroads per 1000 sq. km. territory and 193 km. per 1 million inhabitants. The average railroad intensity of Europe at that time was respectively 24.5 and 600 km. so that Bulgaria was 4.65 resp. 3.1 times less favorable than Europe in that respect. Bulgaria possesses to-day (Dec. 31, 1944) 3,760 km. = 740 miles of railroad lines; this makes 33.6 km. per 1000 sq. km. of territory and 522 km. per 1 million inhabitants.[1] Consequently Bulgaria, having increased her railroad network 6.95 times, has increased her network intensity 7.1 times in relation to this territory and 2.7 times in relation to her population (the growth of the population is very rapid). Bulgaria is well nigh to catch up with Europe so far as the average density of the railroad network is concerned. We should not fail to underline this fact, because between 1878 and 1945 the growth of Bulgaria's railroad network for the duration of this 67 years has been at the rate 48 km. of railroads per year. At an average cost of 6.4 millions leva per kilometer for railroads, rolling stock, inventory and other equipment, according to prices of 1941, this would represent an expenditure of about 310 millions leva a year, which is quite a significant amount for the limited financial resources of Bulgaria.

131
161 [1] 1945 Bulgaria has a territory of 110.842 sq. km. = 42.800 sq. miles and a population of 6.9 millions. In Fig. 12 read 110.842 instead of 110.342 sq miles.

*[See pp. 110(A)-110(B) -- Analyst]

454
652

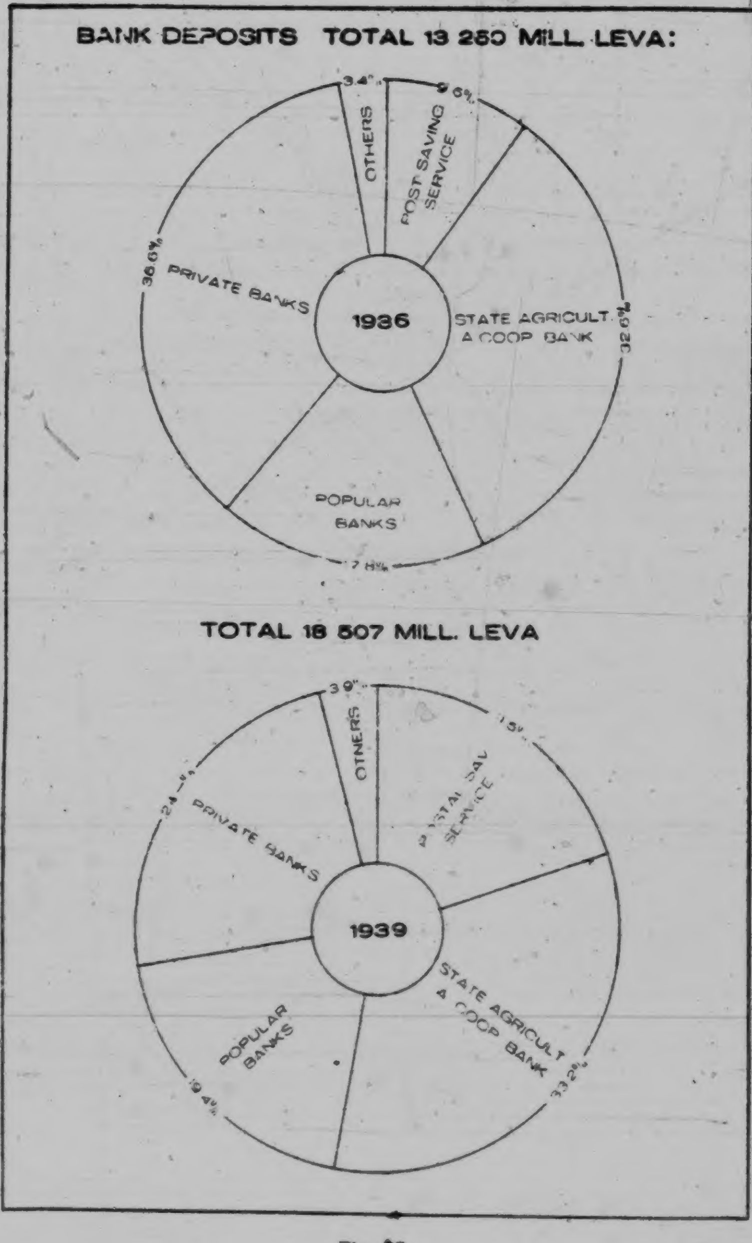


Fig. 27.

496 Of course, the railroad situation in Bulgaria leaves much to be desired and one of the most important and most expensive railroads waits the realization of its construction. A comparison elaborated in 1926 will give a good idea of the eagerness of this small country for railroads. The increase in the number of passengers and the passenger-kilometers covered in travel for a period of 15 years (1911-1926) was 165% for the first and 158% for the second, having at the same time an increase in the length of the railroad network. Suppose we had eliminated this last fact and took into consideration the covered passenger-kilometers per 1 kilometer of opperated railroad, then we would obtain an increase in the intensity of passenger traffic reaching up to 104%, or doubled. This figure is both significant and interesting, because we do not find in the other European railroad administration. Obviously, this situation shows that Bulgaria has not reached a point of saturation in railroad activity.

497 Let us give a comparative idea in regard to passenger traffic:

	Number of passenger in millions			*Passenger-km covered in millions*		
States	*1913*	*1926*	*Increase in %*	*1913*	*1926*	*Increase in %*
France	583	784	34.4	20,637	28,194	36.6
Germany	1,743	1,819	4.35	40,474	42,922	6.1
Belgium	203	225	10.8	4,878	6,184	26.7
Italy	94	115	22.3	—	—	—
Danemark	34	43	26.5	969	1,098	11.7
Bulgaria	3,5 (1911)	9.2	19.2	234 (1911)	605.7	158

Note. Under Bulgaria, the comparison is for 1911 and 1926/7, because if we take the very weak traffic in 1913, the comparison would appear most favorable for her.

The same remarkable increase we observe in the freight traffic also and the comparison for it is as follows:

	Freight in million tons			*Freight covered in million tons — km*		
	1913	*1926*	*Increase + Decrease — in %*	*1913*	*1926*	*Increase + Decrease — in %*
France	243	293.6	+20.8	28,973	41,7.4	+44.3
Germany	450	376.0	—16.4	60,479	58,421	— 3.38
Belgium	61.5	83.0	+30.0	5,290	8,273	+56.4
Italy	41.4	65.2	+57.6	—	—	—
Denmark	9.3	9,4	—	601	633	+ 5.3
Bulgaria	2.04	3,15	+54.5	270.4	497.8	+84.4

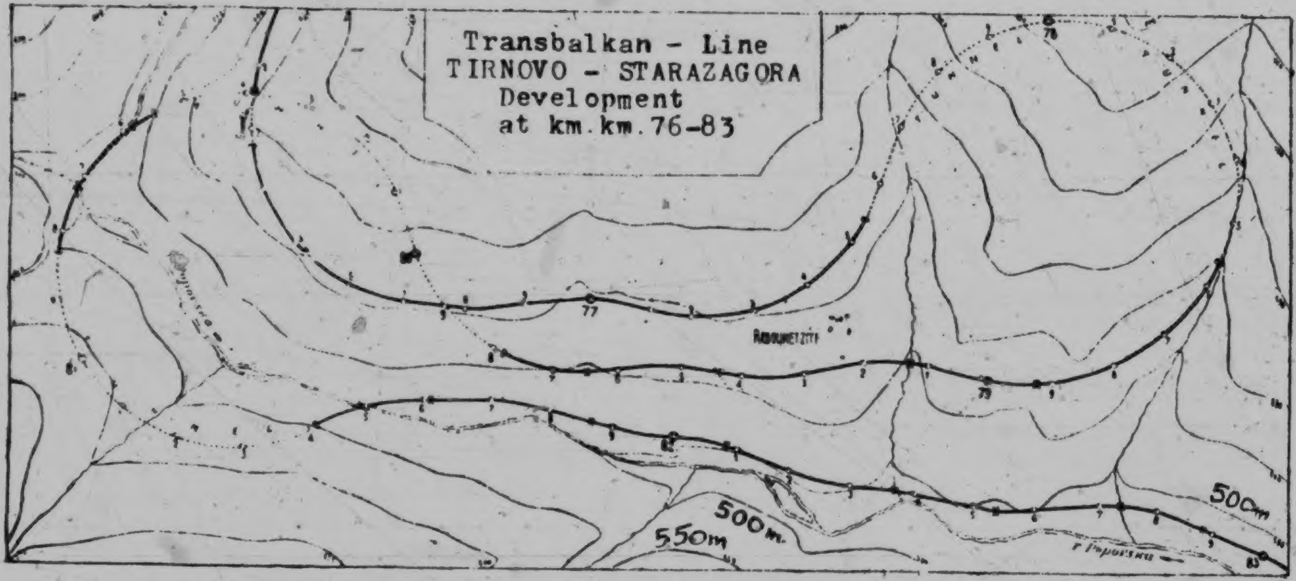

Transbalkan - Line
TIRNOVO - STARAZAGORA
Development
at km.km.76-83
77
78
500m
500m.
550m

Fig. 28.

496

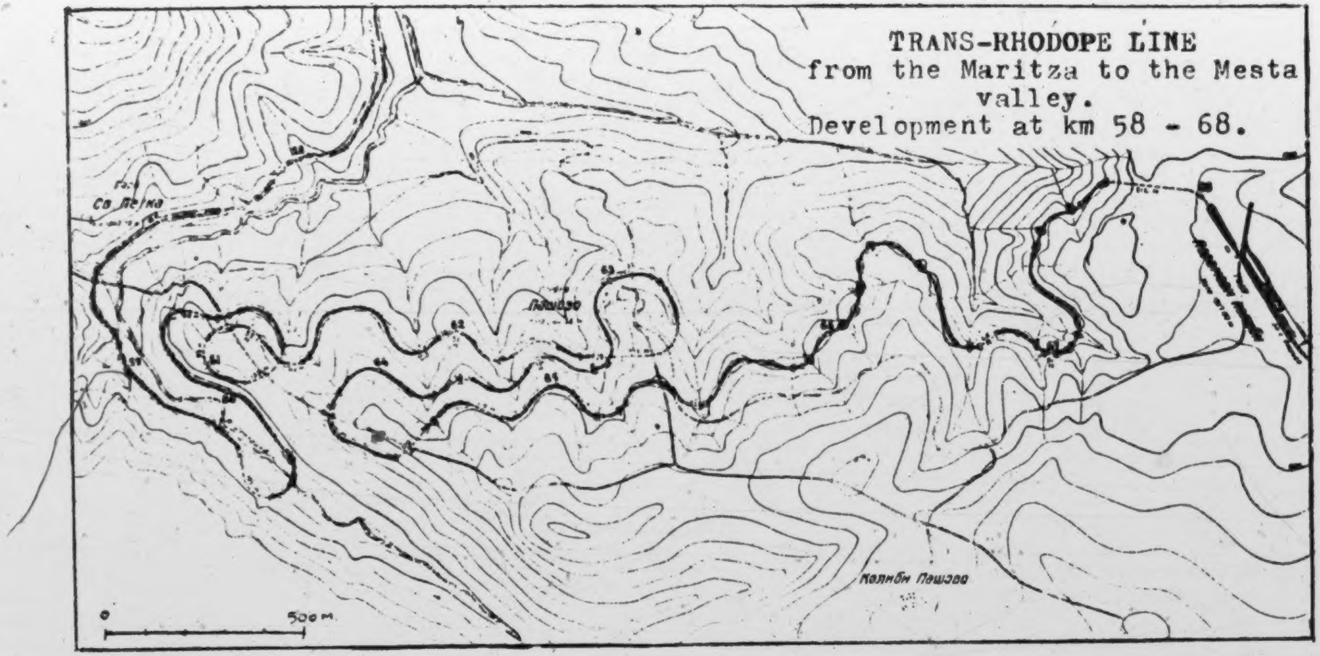
The technical skill of Bulgaria in railroad construction stands at a very high level. It does justice and honor to the country's efforts. The railroads are studied and built by Bulgarian railroad engineers and railroad building companies or by the State. As interesting examples of railroad construction, we might point the Trans-Balkan railroad (Fig. 28), as well as the outstanding interesting development of the Rhodope railroad, which runs from the Maritsa valley to the valley of Mesta and the Southern Bulgarian border (Fig. 29).

Unfortunately, Bulgarian railway lines stop short of the Aegean coast at a very close distance to it (Appendix II). The major line from Roussé on the Danube to south of Momchilgrad, which is 414 kilometers long, stopped 30 kilometers short of the Greek frontier and 30 kilometers from there to the Aegean Sea.

How do Bulgarian railways stand as compared to the railways in her neighbouring countries?

States	*Years*	*Railroads kilometers*	*Territory sq. km.*	*Railways per 1000. km. of territory km.*
Bulgaria	1937	3.105	103	34.—
Greece	1935/6	2.650	130	20.4
Yougoslavia	1935	9.471	248	38.2
Romania	1936	11.216	295	38.2

Romania had 4.357 kilometers of railways until 1918. Then she added the Austro-Hungarian railways to make them 11.678 kilometers. In this way, she increased the density of her railway network and acquired the advantage of a modern system of communications. Similarly, Yugoslavia acquired the biggest part of her railroads as a result of the dissolution of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Serbia had only 1.600 kilometers of railroads for a territory of 48.303 sq. km., or 43 km. of railroads per a 1000 sq. km. of territory until 1914. It is evident, therefore, that, compared to the other Balkan countries, Bulgaria has relied on her own efforts and has exerted herself most of all of them for the development of her railway communications.



TRANS-RHODOPE LINE
from the Maritza to the Mesta
valley.
Development at km 58 - 68.

Св Петка
Пашово
Колиби Пашово
0
500 м

Fig. 29.

491

55. Other Means of Communication.

The development of road construction is in no way less interesting. After the war of 1877/78 Bulgaria inherited from the Ottoman empire 3,727 km. of delapidated roads. She has to-day 33.000 km. of roads, completed or in process of completion, which makes a ninefold increase. Bulgaria had no regular automobile lines until 1920. Now she owns 18.000 km. of such lines or 16.4 km. per 100 sq. km. of territory, over which 10.000.000 passengers are carried annually. If we keep in mind, that the annual passenger traffic over the Bulgarian railroads is about 16.000.000 passenger, we would appreciate the significance of these authomobile lines for the country and the development that might be anticipated for the Bulgarian road system both in size and in quality. The advance estimate for 1970 is that Bulgaria may have 60.000 km. of roads which will probably be the point of saturation.

496 Bulgaria has to take long strides in the development of her communications system. Such effort would be beyond her possibilities in size and resources, but she can not afford to lag behind the general European standard. The student, prompted by good will in seeing and comprehending things according to their proper light, will not fail to realize the laudable endeavors and exertions of our poor, industrious and patient people. The railroads in Bulgaria are built and managed by the State and, consequently, their exploitation goes only to benefit the entire national economy. While financial soundness of the railways is not overlooked, the benefit that they will bring to the national economy is foremost in the mind of the legislator. Bulgaria owes her advancement and her reputation for such advancement to her railroads. The same scruples and views the Government has in regard to the exploitation of automobile roads also. Despite the fact that this exploitations is fostered at the present time on the basis of private concessions, the tendency for the state is to take over entirely their exploitation, because of the constantly growing public interest in them.

205 As another mark of the advanced instruction and enlightenment of our people, we will take as a practical example the movement of mail for 1939 and compare it to the other neighbouring countries in the Balkan peninsula.

205

States:	*Population in millions*	*Private mail in thousands of letters*	*Letters per each inhabitant annually*
Bulgaria	6.29	192,460	30.55
Greece	7.11	134,516	17.55
Romania	19.85	462,327	23.30
Yugoslavia	15.70	392,006	25.—

7

We should remember, with regard to the last two countries, the acquisition of the Austro-Hungarian territory in 1918 with a population much higher in culture than the culture of the native inhabitants. Bulgaria has one Post-Office for each group of 1930 persons, and Greece has one for each group of 4,000.

56. An Important Balkan Problem of Communications.[1]) Bulgaria is the bridge land between 487 two important water routes: The Danube and the Aegean Sea. (Fig. 1 to 5).1 A huge traffic is liable to rise from the natural hinterland of the Aegean Sea, had this hinterland, extending north of the Danube as far as the Baltic Sea, had a natural outlet southwards to the Aegean. The whole mass of this traffic moves down to the south and stops at the Bulgarian-Greek frontier which, at one point, is only twenty one kilometers from the sea. The major railway 496 starting at Roussé, the extension of which was planned when Bulgaria had dominion of the Aegean coast (1913 — 1918), runs through Stara-Zagora and stops at Momchilgrad at a distance of 64 kilometers from the sea after a course of 415 kilometers.

The Rhodope mountains are divided in two parts and a 000 small part is left on Greek territory. The other huge part, with a mountainous population, is separated from the sea coast and the planes of Western Thrace which were the markets of this population and the winter pasture of the numerous cattle and sheep. The Rhodope population were the artisans of this district: masons, tailors and even fishermen. The Inter-Allied Comission, which administered under Governor-General Charpy (1918 — 1920) Western Thrace, taken from Bulgaria, until its transfer by virtue of the Peace Treaty of Sèvres (August 10, 1920), established that the inhabitants of Aegean Thrace were pre-

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[1]) Cf. i. Boshkoff, Quelques Notes sur les Communications dans les Balkan[illegible] Sofia, 1945.

7/1 [See category 116, pp. 9, 10, 12, 13, 38 --Analyst]

000 dominantly Bulgarian and that the Greek population in 1920 was only 20,5% of the total population of this region. Despite the forcible expatriation of the Slavic element at that time and the settlement of Greeks of Asia Minor (Fig. 10), this province was on the decline, its economy was extensive and the main ports Cavalla and Dede-Agatch (Alexandrople) anemic and of purely local significance. The mountain population, which was severed from the region that were the sources of its nourishment and life, sank into misery and destitution. It was condemned to starvation, tuberculosis and enormous child mortality. Here we have the tragedy of the Rodope region.

In spite of the favorable conditions for an intensive traffic on the Thracian Sea Coast, which is the natural outlet for the lands around and beyond the Danube, this coast is separated from its natural hinterland and is in a failing condition, in so far as traffic and economic soundness are concerned. Let us give some characteristic comparative idea about commu-
[491] nications in Thrace and in Bulgaria. The density of road and railroad network in Aegean Thrace was for 1930 about 10.9
497 km. per 100 sq. km. of territory, while in Bulgaria it was 34.1 km., or 3.13 times larger. If we consider in Thrace only the normal lines of the Compagnie Orientale (a private company), we will obtain the following comparative results:

Train movement, i. e. average number of trains in both directions passing through one point daily, we have for CO 3.81 trains, which does not make even two couples of trains daily, while for the Bulgarian State Railways we have 11.25 trains, or 3.03 times larger than for the CO;

Intensity of general movement, i. e. the number of axle-km. per one killometer operating lines: for the B. St. Rws 3.58 times larger:

Intensity of passenger traffic, i. e. passenger — km. per one kilometer operating lines: for the B. St. Rws 6.7 times larger;

Intensity of freight traffic, i. e. ton—km. per one kilometer operating lines: for the B. St. Rws 8.44 times larger than for the CO Rws.

And generaly the intensity of all the Greek lines is considerably smaller than the intensity of the Bulg. St. Rws. The movement on the lines of CO tends to decrease. There was a general fall in the CO lines of 11.8% from 1927 to

1930, while on the B. St. Lines for the same period we have 497 an increase of 20.5%.

The Greek Railways had an increase of only 255 kilometers or 9.6% for the period 1914 to 1940, while Bulgaria increased its railway network with 1.025 kilometers or 48.7% after the two national catastrophies (1913 and 1918). Since 000 1920, for a period of 25 years, Greece has played with the pet idea of building the railroad extension Drama—Kavala, 31 kilometers long, in order to link this sea port with the railroad network. This good intention did not grow up to maturity and the work on this line is left undone until to-day.

Greece suffers of marine hypertrophy. The Greeks control an enormous sea coast line, which they are in no position to make the best use off. Here is how the relation be- 133 tween the sea coast line of the countries and their entire frontier line stands: 80.7% of the entire frontier line of Greece is sea coast line, for Albania the relation is 38.8%, for Yugoslavia — 34.1% and for Bulgaria — 17.5%.

For 1 km. of sea coast we have

Territory: For Greece 22, for Albania 62.2, for Yugoslavia 155 and for Bulgaria 277.5 sq. km.;

Population: for Greece 1060, for Albania 2340, for [161] Yugoslavia 9900 and for Bulgaria 15.000 inhabitants.

57. Construction Work.

It is hard to give a satisfactory picture 000 in this brief study about Bulgaria's accomplishement during the last period of her present free existence. Whatever her achievements might be, they would hardly impress a sophisticated reader, who would wish to measure her with the standards of his advanced country, whose present generation probably owes its spiritual and material progress to the advantages of free life and activity of preceding generations. Our picture, however, would not be complete if we said nothing about the technical developments of Bulgaria or about the work of Bulgarian engineers and architects.

Notwithstanding its limited means, the country spared 653 nothing for its public works. About the beginning of the Second World War, Bulgaria was spending on the average about one billion leva annually for government and municipal building operations. This expenditure grew constantly: in 1936 — 457.600.000, in 1937 — 505.600.000, in 1938 — 534.100.000, 653 in 1939 — 655.600.000, in 1940 — 826.500.000 and in 1941 — 1.130.000.000. These amounts were spent for hospitals, sanatoriums, establishements for economic and agricultural activity, veterinary hospitals, medical centres, public baths, libraries, churches etc.

In the beginning of the Second World War Bulgaria had 4.289 inhabited localities, 2.535 or 59% of which were under public planning and regulation; while out of 384 inhabited localities in the territory of South Dobroudja, annexed to Bulgaria in 1940, only 8 of them enjoyed public plan and regulation. Only 15 out of 2.000 inhabited localities in the provisionally annexed territories of Macedonia, Morava region and Thrace had plans approved for regulation and improvement!

312 If we throw a glance on the water supply situation we would obtain the following picture for Bulgaria:

in the cities:	complete water supply	87.4 %
	partial „ „	20.2 %
	no „ „	2.4 %
in the villages:	full „ „	21.0 %
	partial „ „	18.1 %
	no „ „	60.9 %

On the other hand, in the annexed part of Dobroudja and the provisionally annexed territories the picture is:

for the cities:	full water supply	0.0 %
	partial „ „	60.0 %
	no „ „	40.0 %
for the villages:	full „ „	0.0 %
	partial „ „	[illegible]7 %
	no „ „	94.3 %

During the 20 years before the war, Bulgaria laid 4.608 klms. of metalic pipes for water supply and in the new territories, provisionally administered by Bulgaria, a total of 220 klms. of water supply pipes were laid.

We feel that Bulgaria has reason to be proud of the above accomplishment in that respect.

377 There has been a great progress made in the electrification of the country in recent times, but the subject is too large to cover in this brief study. According to the electrification plan of the entire country, in addition to the present big power plants by the coal mines of Pernic, Rakovski, the Rila River and the Vatcha River by Plovdiv, huge power and transmission plants are projected to carry electric energy to

the remotest corners of the land at a very cheap rate, ranging from 0.5 to 1.0 leva per kilowatt hour. This plan is being revised now and it is anticipated that the enlarged project would absorb an expenditure of 20 billion leva. The consumption of electric energy then would be distributed as follows: 377

For inhabited localities	28.3 %
For agriculture, including irrigation but without azotic fertilizers	13.—%
For transportation	8.9 %
For industries	45.4 %
and for other purposes	4.3 %
	100.—%

What has been said before about motor-car communifications and roads may be supplemented by the following figures; for the 10 year period from 1932 to 1941 Bulgaria has built 4.568 km. of new roads, 15.736 km of levelling and new road bedding, 17.565 km. of new bridges and drainage works. This meant a total expenditure of 4,150,540,490 leva or about 550,000,000 leva per year. For the same period we have 615 km. of new railway lines at an expenditure of 1,620,000,000 leva. 653 499

We will not dwell on the question of dams and irrigation, but will only mention the completed big dam on the river Iskar in the Rila Mountain, with a capacity of 15.000.000 cubic meters of water which is 50 meters high and will note that Bulgaria has spent, during the most trying period of life (1939 — 1941). for: 312

drainage works	42.750.490.—	leva
stream corrections	22.521.837.—	leva
irrigation	9.469.815.—	leva or a
total of	74.742.142.—	leva.

This was not the end of Bulgaria's efforts. Bulgaria was anxious to take care of the countries which were provisionally under her administration during the last war. Here is some information taken from a controversy on the subject.

A Greek paper discussing the subject of homes and other buildings built by the Bulgarian authorities in the Aegean Coast Region, writes among other things the following: 653

„If we overlook the public bath at Xanthi built by them for the pleasure and enjoyment of their brothers the Germans, the Bulgarians did not leave us any structure of significance. It is true that in some places between Xanthi and Kavala they built some peasant houses to please the taste of the Bulgarians but not beautiful at all. These houses, however, were built at the expense of Greek economy, with Greek lumber from the Rhodopes, Pirin and the island of Tassos, with Greek labour and with materials from the old houses of our peasants, who were thrown out on the roads because their homes were ruined...“

In reply to this clearly unfavourable and superficial statement the following objection could be raised:

From the first part of May 1941, when the Aegean zone went actually under Bulgarian administrative control, until 9 September 1944, when the Greek authorities took over the district, intensive creative work was carried on in the Aegean zone. This was made possible despite the handicaps of the war situation and the lack of any connections with the old districts of Bulgaria and in spite of shattered roads, demolished bridges and lack of materials. The work went on at a rate which baffled all possible expectations. Not only the amazing speed, but also the ambition put in the work, by the Bulgarian population of local residents and newcomers, made a very deep impression on the foreign Greek, Turkish and Armenian population. They applied themselves on the job as people who took pains in building and managing their own homes and properties.

Model homes, establishments for economic and agricultural activities, new railroads, highways bridges, mines, salt works, fountains, aqueducts, slaughter houses, electrical plants and instalations, public baths, drainage works on the ramifications of the Mesta river, hygienic and city improvements and planning, maitenance of railroads, highways and bridges — all this is the constructive and useful work of the Bulgarian State in the Aegean zone. This work, not to mention the millions spent by private business and initiative for the restorations of abandoned Greek homes, was actually beyond the normal capacity of the Government. What was left over and what was accomplished by the Bulgarian Government and nationals in the Aegean area, for less than three years and a half of occupation, exceeds hundredfold the Greek achievements during 20 years of peacetime activity.

653

Even in 1941, the Aegean area presented a vast desert plain where one saw, like an oasis in the desert, here and there a patch of land sown mainly with tobacco and maize insufficient to satisfy the very minimum needs of the district. It looked as if the roller of war had run over it and done away with everything in its path. This was a convincing evidence for the Bulgarians that carelessness and negligence were the attitude of the central Greek authority towards the district.

If we exclude Xanthi, Dedeagatch and Kavala, where after the European war some small refugee homes were built, nowhere else in the Aegean zone will we find any trace of constructive work to demonstrate the care and concern of the Greek Government. The improvement work in the Ser and Demirhissar districts is an exception and an encroachment upon the „harmony of desorder and dull carelessness" in this zone. Even this constructive work, though forced upon the Greeks by foreign suggestion and initiative, has no economic justification, but is prompted by military considerations. Dispite the drainage improvements in the said two districts, the Bulgarian authorities found them as desert plains.

The sturdy Bulgarian arms and tenacity worked and developed these desert areas and turned them into fertile plough fields and gardens, which not only benefited the foreign and Bulgarian population, but afforded pleasure to the eye. The Giumurdjina, Sarashaban, Drama and Ser plains were turned under the Bulgarian administration into a picture land fraught with bounty and beauty which pleased the eye.

The Aegean zone visitor of 1912-1913 would be confounded to find that houses, burned and destroyed way back in the Balkan Wars, were left untouched by human hand until this very day and not one single stone or brick had been placed back in their original places.

Now, this is what one should call „dull carelessness". This is what leaves the vistor with the impression that the Greeks did not regard the Aegean zone as their own land, but as a land taken over by conquest and, for the time being, left to the grace and consideration of a step mother.

Bulgaria administered the region of the Aegean Sea from 1941 to 1944, for three years and a half. Notwithstanding the lack of materials and proper roads for transportation, the Bulgarian Government spent 640,000,000 leva from her appropriations for building, repairs etc. All along the road of Demir

653 Hissar—Ser—Drama—Kavala—Sara Shaban, the Government built 240 model peasant homes amounting to 173,000,000 leva. Other 12 homes were not completed. They cost 4,000,000 leva. Besides these homes the Government built 152 new buildings to be used for economic and agricultural needs at an expense of 209,000,000 leva. For the repair of various buildings a total of 63,000,000 leva was spent. The lumber was altogether new and was supplied from Nevrokop (Bulgaria). All other materials were brought from the old parts of the country with the exception of bricks, which were made on the spot and paid by the Bulgarian contractors at a fair and proper price. The master builders were Bulgarians and the common labour was hired from the local Greeks, who were paid the current wages.

We must add to these expenses the expenditure for work in the following enterprises:

The building of new railway lines	194,000,000	leva
tracing of new lines and maintenance	192,000,000	„
building of roads etc.	253,000,000	„
mines and brine-pits	597,000,000	„
fountains, acqueducts, slaughter houses	61,000,000	„
miscellaneous	140,000,000	„
or a total of over	2,000,000,000	leva,

if we do not include the expenses for new buildings, repairs and improvements, without the current expenses for their maintenance. It will not be an exaggeration if we state that Bulgaria, in this short and war period, did in that respect far more than what Greece had done for 20 years of administration over Thrace. Apart from the worker homes in Kavala and some more significant structures here and there, built with American help, Thrace received from the Greek Government the care of a step-mother.

We must note furthermore, that even private individuals, Bulgarian settlers, spent much of their means to repair the homes that were given them. A large percent should be taken also from the declared amount of 17,000,000,000 leva representing the abandoned property in the Aegean Sea Region.

We must also remember that the above mentioned figures represent the amounts in government appropriations. If we transfer these figures to the present day rate of exchange of the lev, the amounts should be at least doubled.

58. Conclusion. In spite of all that has been mentioned above in our study, we know that there would be a lot of people who would not appreciate things as they find them. They would not recognize the share of the small and weak nations in the common cause for the advancement of the world. The far advanced Western European culture betrays the weakness of the strong, there is a hidden lookdown of the big on the small. We, the small, endeavor to keep up with the big, because present day life demands it from us. What Bulgaria represents to-day in material accomplishments, she owes it to her industrious and active population, rather than to any inheritance from forefathers and preceding generations. 000

We have limited ourselves so far to the preceding information. The reader will, however, find, other interesting facts in the graphic tables inserted in the text. We feel that we have offered an interested and willing reader, in a general and popular manner, the most important features that one would like to know about our country.

This book was written for those who would be willing to know the objective truth about Bulgaria. Mutual respect and understanding are born from the objective study of things. We would have accomplished much, if the information offered our kind readers has helped them to respect our people and if we have added to the general interest in our roses an interest in the other qualities of our land and in the long suffering of the people, who look eagerly forward to a lasting period of peaceful and cultural development. /121

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8: Bojkoff K-4,5 (no date) 1946 EE1 Bulgaria EE1

175

SYNOPTIC HISTORY of BULGARIA

THE RULER

FIRST BULGARIAN KINGDOM 339 Years

The Bulgarians coming from North East subjected and united the Slavs in the lands, which later were called BULGARIA, and founded the BULGARIAN KINGDOM KHAN ASPARUKH passes the Danube and settles in the Balkan Peninsula. The History of Bulgaria during THE FIRST (679–1018) and THE SECOND Bulgarian Kingdom (1186–1393) is a continuous struggle against the Byzantine Empire to rid the Balkan Peninsula of Byzantine authority which was foreign to the local population.	KHAN ASPARUK THE FOUNDER
	TERVEL
	SEVAR
The Bulgarians threatened Constantinople. →	755 KORMISOSH
	SEVERAL KHANS
	KARDAM
Unifying the Nation and strengthening the Kingdom. Victories and acquisitions. Legislation. Attempt to unify Slavs in Macedonia and Thrace. Krum defeated the Byzantine Emperor Nicephorus.	811 KRUM THE LEGISLAT
	OMORTAG
Krum reached Constantinople.	MALAMIR PRESSIAM
Long rule of a wise ruler. Development of Bulgarian letters. THE BULGARIANS CHRISTIANIZED Free trade exchange. Period of peaceful endeavours. Unifying the Nation through common religion.	86 KING BORIS I THE CHRISTENE
THE APOSTAT	VLADIMIR
Development of Bulgarian letters. No Slavic people had yet their own literature except the Bulgarians; Successful conquests. GOLDEN AGE. SIMEON THREATENED CONSTANTINOPLE. →	TZAR SIMEON 922 GOLDEN AGE 924

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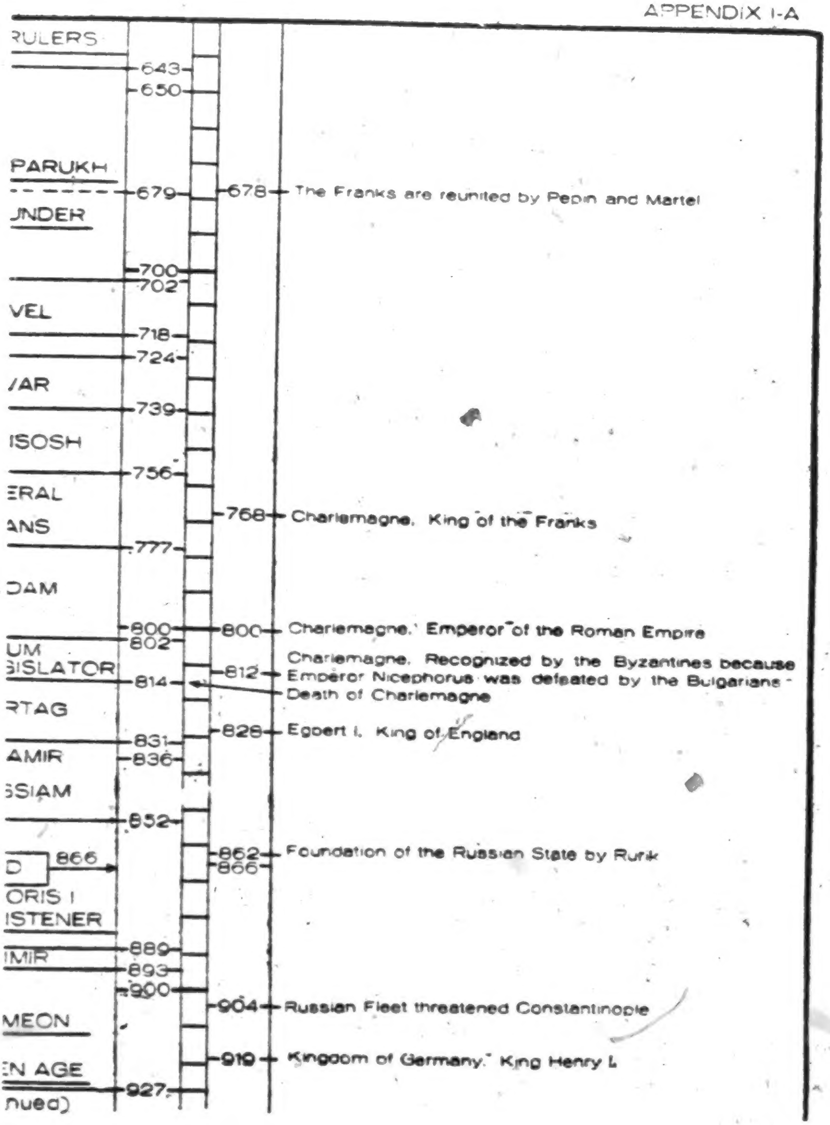
105 (A)
[Left-hand side]

175

APPENDIX I-A


RULERS
643
650
PARUKH
679
UNDER
700
702
VEL
718
724
VAR
739
ISOSH
756
ERAL
ANS
777
DAM
800
802
UM
SISLATOR
814
RTAG
831
AMIR
836
SSIAM
852
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866
ORIS I
ISTENER
889
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893
900
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927
nued)

678 The Franks are reunited by Pepin and Martel

768 Charlemagne, King of the Franks

800 Charlemagne, Emperor of the Roman Empire

812 Charlemagne, Recognized by the Byzantines because Emperor Nicephorus was defeated by the Bulgarians

814 Death of Charlemagne

828 Egbert I, King of England

862 Foundation of the Russian State by Rurik

866

904 Russian Fleet threatened Constantinople

919 Kingdom of Germany, King Henry I

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[Right-hand side]

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BULGARIA – HISTORY (CONTINUATION)

FIRST BULGAR KINGDOM	St. John of Rila (876–946). Founder of the Rila Monastery Russian Invasion East Bulgaria under Byzantine Rule 971 Samuel Leader of West Bulgaria Macedonia Samuel, Tzar of Bulgaria 997	TZAR PETER 968 TZAR SAMUE
UNDER BYZANTINE RULE 168 years	**BULGARIA UNDER BYZANTINE DOMINION** The Byzantine Empire preserved to some degree the organization of the Bulgarian Kingdom. It kept Bulgarian Patriarchate in Ochrid as an Archbishopric The Governor of Bulgaria was the LOCUM TENENS OF THE EMPEROR with the Title DUX BULGARIAE The Byzantine Empire beginn to disintegrate about the XII century. Feudalism and Anarchy. The Bogomil Movement helped the dissolution of the Kingdom. It was a Religion and Social Teaching which was continued by the Albigenses in Western Europe	BULGARIAN INSURRECTI BULGARIAN INSURRECTI
2nd BULG KINGDOM	**BULGARIAN INSURRECTION** The Weak Byzantine (Greek) rule was easily overturned by a Bulgarian Insurrection in Tirnovo, the New Capital of Bulgaria. The Byzantine Empire was so weakly organized that the Crusaders conquered it and made of it a Latin Empire, with Constantinople as Capital	TZAR ASSEN TZAR KALOYA TZAR BORIL (Continued)

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[Left hand side)

& Bojkoff K-4, 5 (no date) 1946 EE1 Bulgaria EE1

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APPENDIX I-B

	927		
		941	A Russian fleet threatened Constantinople
ETER I			
		962	Otto I. Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire
	971		
	980		
		988	THE RUSSIANS CHRISTIANIZED
AMUEL			
	1000		The Vikings in North Amerika
	1014		
	1018		
AN			
ECTION	1041	1042	EDWARD THE CONFESSOR in England
		1050	The Turks conquered the Moslem Empire
RIAN			
		1066	Norman invasion in England. William the Conqueror
ECTION	1073	1071	The Turks besieged the Byzantines by Manzikert. Armenia
	1100	1097	The FIRST CRUSADE. Godefrey of Bouillon
		1147	The SECOND CRUSADE
		1150	The Oxford and Cambridge Universities
	1169	1169	Serbia United in a State
	1185		
SSEN I		1189	The 3-rd CRUSADE. Richard Coeur de Lion
	1195		
LOYAN	1200		
	1207	1204	The 4-th CRUSADE. Constantinople Captured
BORIL			
	1218	1218	The 5-th CRUSADE
nued)			

106(B)
[Right-hand side]

BULGARIA—HISTORY

(Continuation)

SECOND BULGARIAN KINGDOM 207 YEARS

TZAR IVAN-ASSEN I

KALOMAN

MICHAEL-ASSE

GENERAL DECADENCE

Tartar invasion

TZAR CONSTAN

Tartar invasion

TZAR GEORGE TERTE

TZAR THEODO SVETOSLAV

Turkish invasion in the Balkan Peninsula

SEVERAL TZAR

KINGDOM OF VIDIN
KINGDOM OF VELBUDZ
KINGDOM OF TIRNOVO
ETC.

DIVISION OF THE KINGDOM

TZAR IVAN-ALEXAND

TZAR IVAN SHISHMA

UNDER TURKISH RULE 485 YEARS

THE FALL OF TIRNOVO, THE CAPITAL OF BULGARIA

An allied army under King Sigismund of Hunga defeated at Nicopol by the Turks

The Turkish invasion was detrimental to all the Christians, but particularly t the Bulgarians bacause of their central position in the Balkan Peninsula. Th Greeks lost their independance, but preserved their Church and, therefore their civil rights. The privilege and the rights of the Constantinople Gree Patriarchate reached dimensions which were not even dreamed of durin the Byzantine Empire.

THE TURKS CONQUER CONSTANTINO

We may qualify the Turkish rule like this: Unheard of and complete lawles sness and injustice towards the Bulgarian population, which like the rest the Christians, was already called „rayah“, which means „subjected“. Unpa laborers of the rich and authoritative Turkish landowners, especially when th decay of the Ottoman Empire set in after the year 1571.

(Continued)

107(A)
[Left-hand side]

8: Bojkoff K-4, 5 (no date) 1946 EE1 Bulgaria EE1

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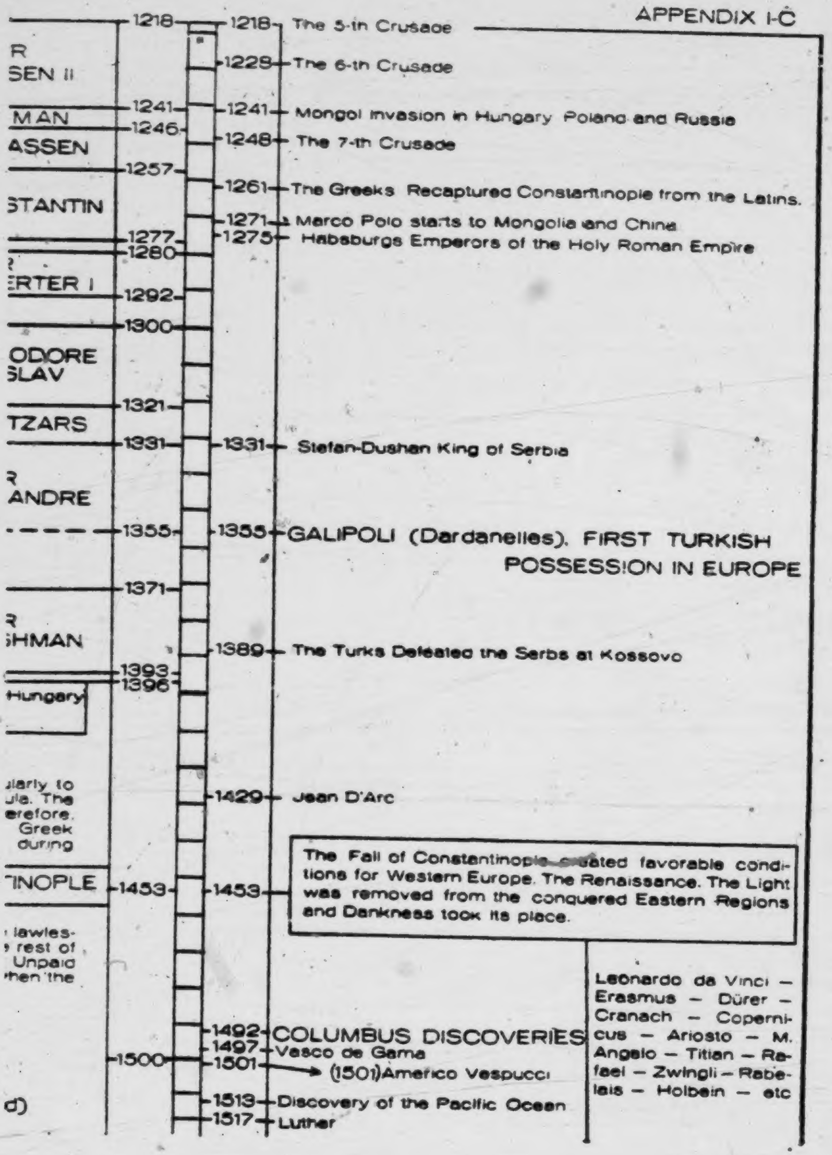
APPENDIX I-C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1396
1453
1500

1218 The 5-th Crusade
1228 The 6-th Crusade
1241 Mongol invasion in Hungary Poland and Russia
1248 The 7-th Crusade
1261 The Greeks Recaptured Constantinople from the Latins.
1271 Marco Polo starts to Mongolia and China
1275 Habsburgs Emperors of the Holy Roman Empire
1331 Stefan-Dushan King of Serbia
1355 GALIPOLI (Dardanelles). FIRST TURKISH POSSESSION IN EUROPE
1389 The Turks Defeated the Serbs at Kossovo
1429 Jean D'Arc
1453 The Fall of Constantinople created favorable conditions for Western Europe. The Renaissance. The Light was removed from the conquered Eastern Regions and Darkness took its place.

Leonardo da Vinci — Erasmus — Dürer — Cranach — Copernicus — Ariosto — M. Angelo — Titian — Rafael — Zwingli — Rabelais — Holbein — etc

1492 COLUMBUS DISCOVERIES
1497 Vasco de Gama
1501 → (1501)Americo Vespucci
1513 Discovery of the Pacific Ocean
1517 Luther

107(B)
[Right-hand side]

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BULGARIA—HISTORY (CONTINUATION)

UNDER TURKISH RULE 485 YEARS

„THE GREEK YOKE“ in Turkish times: This is the authority of the Constantinople Patriarch over the Bulgarian population in Religious matters. The last traces of the Bulgarian Church, libraries, science and culture are destroyed. The Greek Bishops were worse than the Turkish Pashas. This is the „Spiritual Yoke“ of the Bulgarian people.

Selim I becomes Sultan and Ca

Hungary under Turkish Dominic

The Turks at Vienna

John the Terrible, Tzar of Russ

Victory over the Turkish Fleet at

panto.

AUSTRIAN-TURKISH WAI

THE BEGINNING OF THE DECLINE of the Turkish Kingdom 1683

The Turks besiege Vienna; then withdraw

Austrian-Turkish-Wars **INSURRECTION IN BULGARIA** at Chiprovtzi

–The Austrians under Eugene of Savoy annihilate the Turks at Zenta; Peace of Karlova

Irregular Turkis
bands commite
cruelties and vic
lence over th
Bulgarian popu
lation

The Renaissance of the Bulgarian nation: The monk Paissi writes a history of the Bulgarian people, its political and cultural past. This book is copied and recopied and passed from hand to hand. It stirred the national consciousnes of the Bulgarians. The people call this book „The Book of Kings“.

The Closing of the Ochrid Patriarchate which functioned as a remainder of the old Bulgarian Patriarchate since 1020

Russian-Turkish Wars

Russian-Turkish War

(CONTINUED

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[Left-hand side]

8: Bojkoff K-4, 5 (no date) 1946 EE1 Bulgaria EE1

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APPENDIX I-D

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and Calf 1512
Dominion 1526
1529
of Russia 1533
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1600
1646
SH WAR 1664
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f Karlovatz 1700

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over the
an popu-

1762
1767
1774
1780
1787
TINUED) 1789

1492 THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA
1497 Vasco de Gama
1501 Amerigo Vespucci
1509 Henry VIII, King of England
1512
1517 MARTIN LUTHER IN WITTENBERG
1519 Karl V, Emperor
1530 Henry VIII broke with the Pope and became head of the Anglican Church
1539 Establishment of the Jesuit Order
1551 The Augsburg Religious Peace
1556 Philip II, King of Spain
1558 Elisabeth, Queen of England
1564 Galileo and Shakespeare born
1572 The Night of Bartholomew in France
1588 The Annihilation of the Spanish Armada
1598 The Edict of Nantes
1613 The Beginning of the Reign of the Romanovs in Russia
1618 The Beginning of the Thirty Years War
1639 Japan closed to Europeans
1642 Frederick William, the Great Elector
1648 Civil War in England — Cromwell
Peace of Westphalia
1661 Louis XIV, Absolute Monarch
1682 Peter the Great, Tzar of Russia
1687 Personal Union in Austria — Hungary
1701 The Mercantile Period
Kingdom of Prussia — Frederick I
1735 Freedom of the Press in the U S A
1740 Maria Theresa, Empress of Austria
1741 Frederick II the Great King of Prussia
1741 Elisabeth, Empress of Russia
1749 1749–1832 Wolfgang von Goethe
1756 Beginning of the Seven Years War
1763 Catherine the Great, Empress of Russia
1766 The Encyclopedians in France
1776 Declaration of the Independence of the U S A
George Washington, President
1789 THE FRENCH REVOLUTION

108(B)
[Right-hand side]

BULGARIA–HISTORY

(CONTINUA

485 YEARS UNDER TURKSH RULE

THE BULGARIAN PATRIARCHATE LIBRARY IN TIRNOVO WAS BURNT in 1828. About the same time all Bulgarian church and monastery libraries were destroyed

SPIRITUAL SLAVERY: Having applied to the Greek Bishop for the opening of a Bulgarian school in Plovdiv, the Bishop answered the Bulgarian notables: „In view of the strict order which we have from our Patriarch to have a close watch over every effort on the part of the Bulgarians in opening schools, you will be exiled and your school closed. If you only care, then, for your own interest, you better desist from your undertaking"

The First Printed Bulg

Serbia gets

Greece gets

The First Bulgarian read

STRUGGLES FOR BUL
NATIONAL CHURCH

Occupation of Rumania by Rus

THE BULGARIANS REJECT THE GREEK CHURCH AND ESTABLISH THEIR NATIONAL CHURCH

Crin
Unit

INSURRECTION AND
CRES IN BULGARIA

Russo-Turkish War

THIRD BULGARIAN KINGDOM

Prince ALEXANDER I
1887

KING
1908
TZAR
FERDINAND I
1887 – 1919
1919

TZAR BORIS III
1943

TZAR SIMEON II

Treaties of Peace of San Stephano and Berlin – only one part of BULGARIA IS LIBERATED

NORTH BULGARIA AND EASTERN RUMELIA REUNITED

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE –
Bulgaria Kingdom

Bulgaria, Serbia and Greece defeated Turkey

War of Serbia and Greece against Bulgaria

First World War 1914–1918

Bulgaria enters the World War

Treaty of Peace of Neuilly

Treaty of Peace of Sèvres

Bulgaria enters the Second World War

September 9 – ANTIFASCIST REVOLUTION

Beging of

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[Left-hand side]

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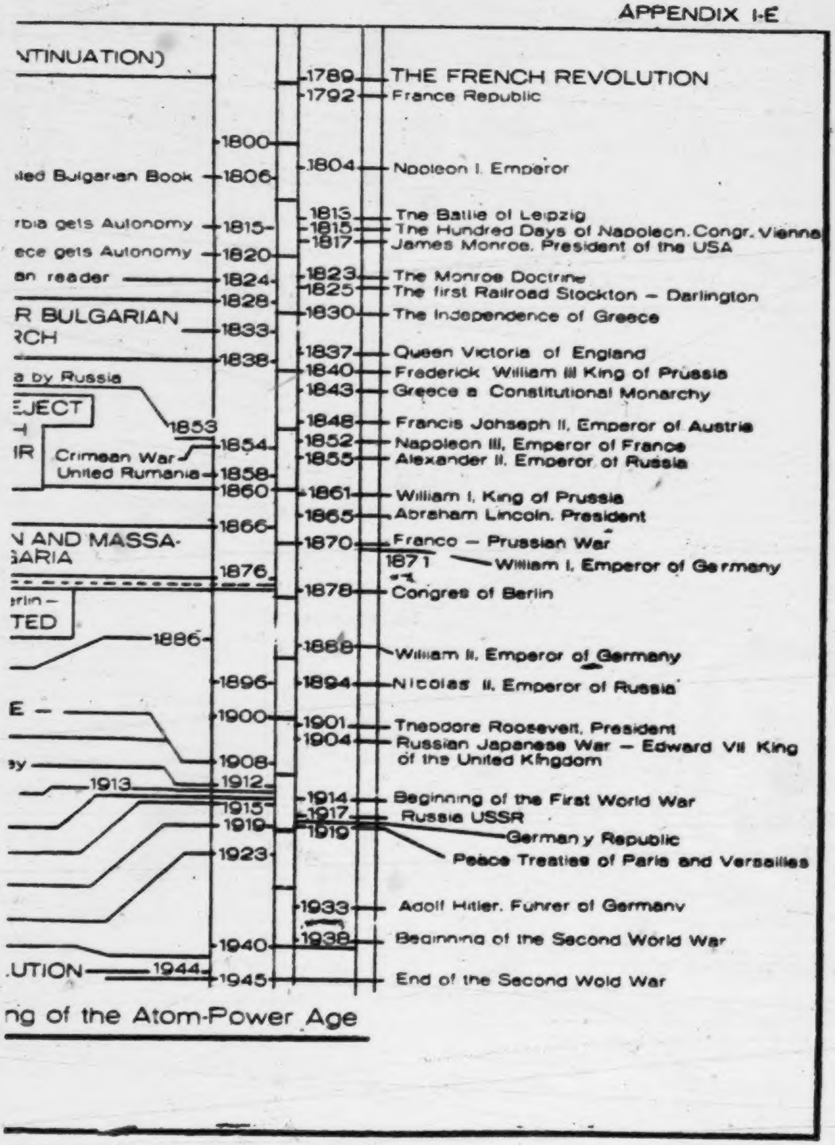
APPENDIX I-E


NTINUATION)
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led Bulgarian Book 1806
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1940
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1945
ng of the Atom-Power Age

1789 THE FRENCH REVOLUTION
1792 France Republic
1804 Npoleon I. Emperor
1813 The Battle of Leipzig
1815 The Hundred Days of Napolecn. Congr. Vienna
1817 James Monroe. President of the USA
1823 The Monroe Doctrine
1825 The first Railroad Stockton – Darlington
1830 The Independence of Greece
1837 Queen Victoria of England
1840 Frederick William III King of Prussia
1843 Greece a Constitutional Monarchy
1848 Francis Johseph II, Emperor of Austria
1852 Napoleon III, Emperor of France
1855 Alexander II. Emperor of Russia
1861 William I, King of Prussia
1865 Abraham Lincoln. President
1870 Franco – Prussian War
1871 William I, Emperor of Germany
1878 Congres of Berlin
1888 William II. Emperor of Germany
1894 Nicolas II. Emperor of Russia
1901 Theodore Roosevelt, President
1904 Russian Japanese War – Edward VII King of the United Kingdom
1914 Beginning of the First World War
1917 Russia USSR
1919 Germany Republic
Peace Treaties of Paris and Versailles
1933 Adolf Hitler. Fuhrer of Germany
1938 Beginning of the Second World War
1945 End of the Second Wold War

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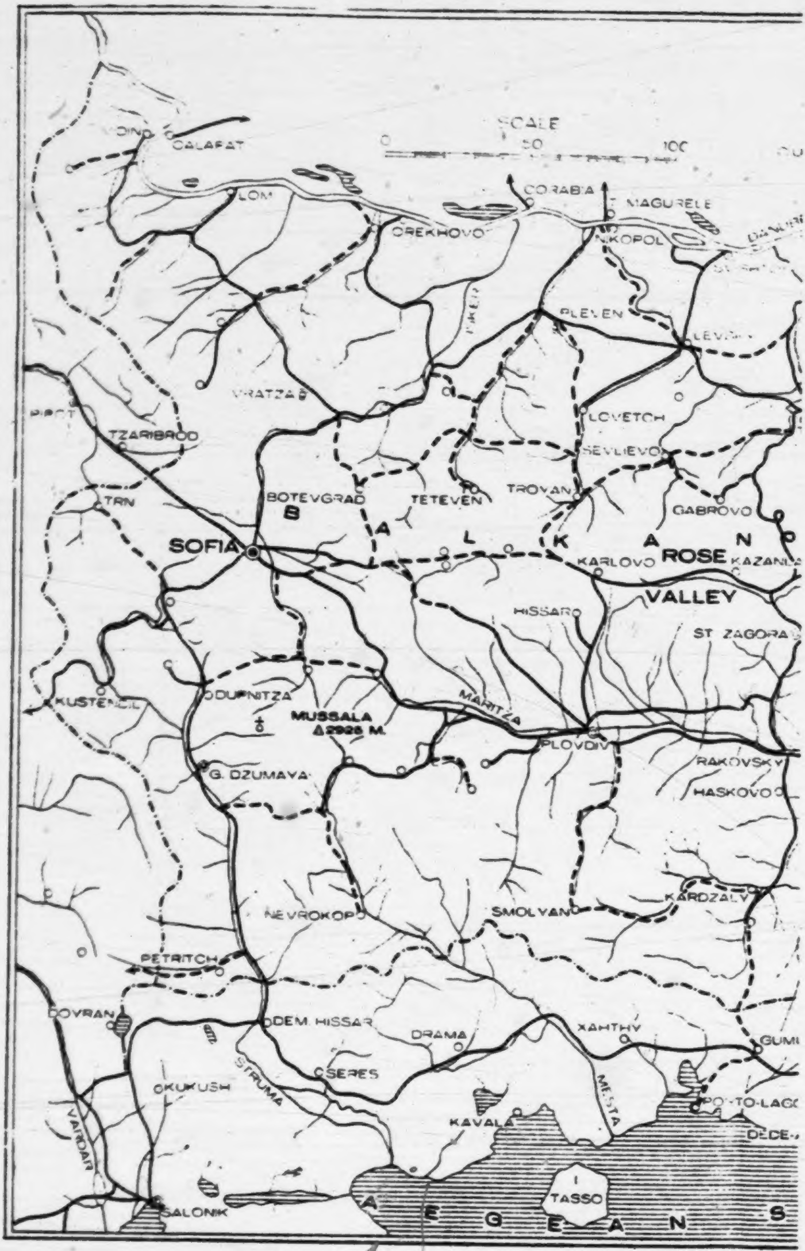
[Right-hand side]

APPENDIX II. — Scale in kilometers.


SCALE
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VIDIN
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CORABIA
MAGURELE
OREKHOVO
NIKOPOL
DANUB
PLEVEN
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LEV
VRATZA
PIROT
TZARIBROD
LOVETCH
SEVLIEVO
BOTEVGRAD
TETEVEN
TROYAN
GABROVO
TRN
B A L K A N
SOFIA
KARLOVO
ROSE VALLEY
KAZANL
HISSARO
ST ZAGORA
KUSTENDIL
DUPNITZA
MUSSALA
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MARITZA
PLOVDIV
RAKOVSKY
HASKOVO
G. DZUMAYA
NEVROKOP
SMOLYAN
KARDZALY
PETRITCH
DOYRAN
DEM. HISSAR
DRAMA
XANTHY
GUMI
STRUMA
SERES
KUKUSH
MESTA
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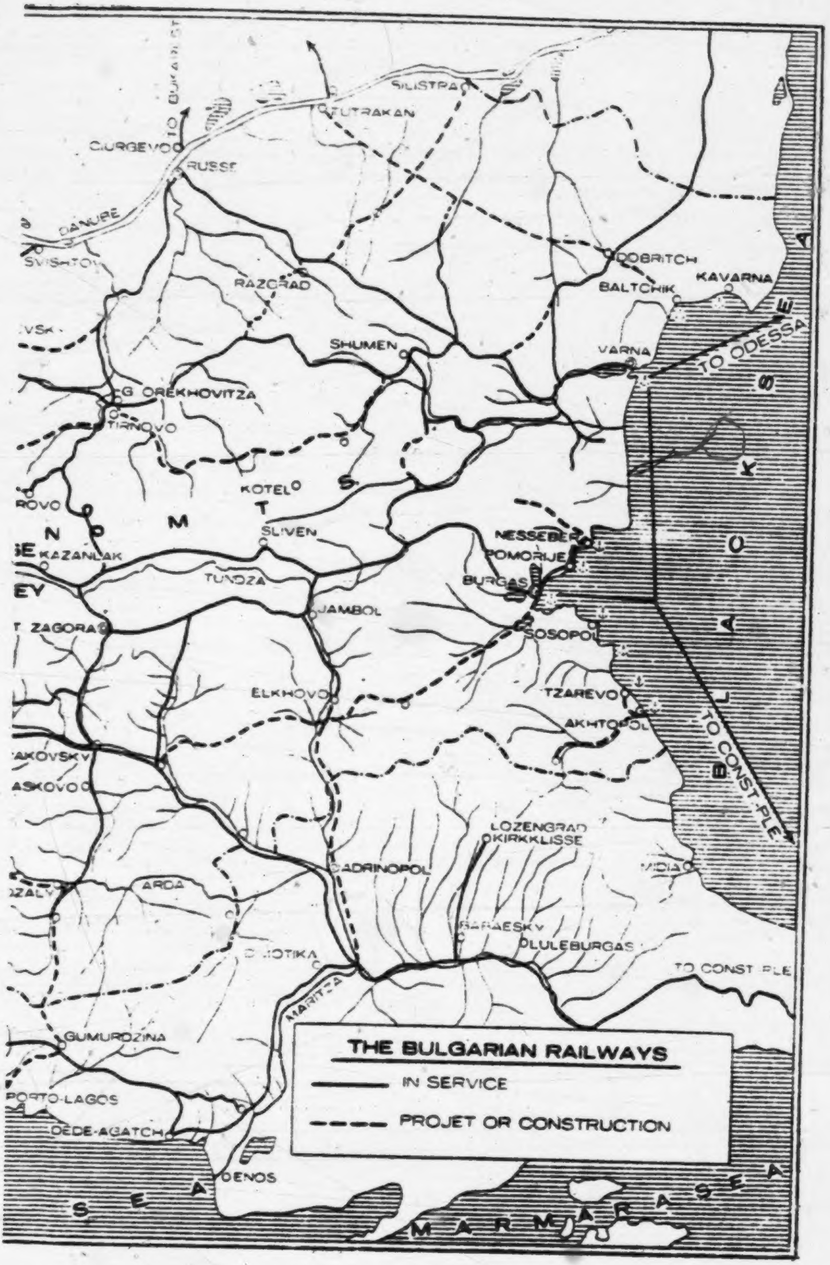
110(A)
[Left-hand side]

8: Bojkoff K-4,5 (no date) 1946 EE1 Bulgaria EE1


TO BUKAREST
SILISTRA
TUTRAKAN
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SHUMEN
VARNA
TO ODESSA
G. OREKHOVITZA
TIRNOVO
KOTEL
ROVO
SLIVEN
KAZANLAK
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POMORIJE
BURGAS
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JAMBOL
T. ZAGORA
SOSOPOL
ELKHOVO
TZAREVO
AKHTOPOL
AKOVSKY
ASKOVO
TO CONST'PLE
LOZENGRAD
KIRKKLISSE
ADRINOPOL
MIDIA
ARDA
ZALY
BABAESKY
LULEBURGAS
DIMOTIKA
TO CONST'PLE
MARITZA
GUMURDZINA
PORTO-LAGOS
DEDE-AGATCH
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N O M T S
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M A R M A R A S E A
THE BULGARIAN RAILWAYS
IN SERVICE
PROJET OR CONSTRUCTION

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[Right-hand side]